OP NEWS OF J&K



Moreover, police have taken up the investigation into the matter.

Delhi Police cracks down on Chinese manjha;



J&K leader Usman Majid quits Apni Party over growing proximity with BJP

Over 13 lakh Indian students pursuing Ashok Kumar

registers 78 FIRs, arrests 79

NEW DELHI, Aug 2 (Agencies) : As many as 79 people have been arrested here in the last 20 days for selling Chinese 'manjha' that has caused injuries as well as fatalities in the national capital.

Turn to page 9

3 Anantnag residents killed as vehicle veers off road, falls in gorge in Kupwara

SRINAGAR, Aug 2 (Agencies): At least three persons died after a vehicle veered off road and fell into a gorge on Tanghdar-Teethwal road in north Kashmir's Kupwara district on Friday, officials said.

An official said that the accident took place near Sikh bridge, resulting into the death of three individuals from Anantnag district.

The dead have been identified as Mushtaq Ahmed Khan (41) son of Ghulam Nabi Khan, Feroz Ahmed Pala (45) son of Abdul Salaam Pala and Nazir Ahmed Magray (55) son of Mohammad Sultan Magray-all Anantnag's Seer Hamdan.

Police have taken cognisance of the incident.

JAMMU, Aug 2 (Agencies): The government on Friday relieved Altaf Ahmad Shah, from his duties in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. and posted Ashok Kumar Sharma, Commandant IRP-24th Bn as new SSP Security J&K.

Sharma posted as

SSP Security J&K

Turn to page 9

NEW DELHI, Aug 2 (Agencies): Over 13 lakh Indian students are currently pursuing higher studies abroad in 2024, the government informed Parliament on Thursday. Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh shared data in a written response in Rajya Sabha to queries on whether the govern-

ment maintains data of emigrant students going abroad for studies.

higher studies Abroad in 2024: Govt

In his response, Singh shared country-wise details of Indian students studying abroad, spanning 108 countries, including the US, the UK, Canada, Australia, Germany, France, Singapore, Russia, Israel and Ukraine.

According to the data shared, as on date, 13,35,878 Indian students are pursuing higher studies abroad in 2024. For 2023, the figure was 13,18,955, while it was 9,07,404 for 2022. In the current year, of the 1,33,5878 Indian students 4,27000 were studying in Canada and Turn to page 9

SRINAGAR, Aug 2 (Agencies): Former Jammu and Kashmir minister and Apni Party vice president Usman Majid has parted ways with the party alleging that the "youngest regional outfit" was playing second fiddle to the BJP.

"I have parted ways with the Apni Party as friends. But, it was clear



that the they are aligned with BJP. We have seen it in the elections that they have an understanding with the BJP," Majid told PTI here.

The former MLA from north Kashmir's Bandipora assembly constituency said his constituents were against the "anti-minority stance of the BJP" and hence he has decided to snap ties with the Apni Party.

Turn to page 9

CS for expediting progress on **Parvatmala projects**



SRINAGAR, Aug 2 (Agencies): Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo on Friday held a meeting of National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML) to take stock of the progress made on several projects proposed to be taken-up under Parvatmala across the UT.

Besides CEO, NHLML those present in the meeting includes ACS, Forests; Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department; Principal Secretary, Finance; Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD; Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir/

Turn to page 9

Δ MERCEDES – BMW – AUDI



♥ NAGROTA, JAMMU (J&K)

\$ +91-9086207123

OBITUARIES

107. Noida



the sad demise of our beloved Smt Champa Devi W/o Shri Jiya Lal Vaid R/o H.No. 278 Pacci Dhakki Jammu on July 25.

Tenth Day will be performed on 3rd August (Saturday) at 10 am at Shri Radha Krishan Mandir Rani Park Jammu.

Kriya will be held on 4th August (Sunday) at 12 Noon at Khatri Sabha Moti Bazar Jammu. Bhog Prasadam will be served from 1 PM to 3

PM & Uthala/Rasam Pagri will be performed Smt Champa Devi from 3 PM to 4 PM on 5th August at Khatri

Sabha, Moti Bazar Jammu. GRIEF STRICKEN

Shri Jiya Lal Vaid -Husband

Sh Aman Vaid & Smt Jyotsana Sharma - Son & Daughter-in-law Smt Sumitu Sharma & Rakesh Sharma -Daughter & Son-in-law Smt Roopali Sharma & Prikshit Sharma -Daughter & Son-in-law Grand Children: Gargi, Sudhipt, Riya, Manhar, Aabhir Vaid Family

Mob. 9906037437, 8713025843

OBITUARY/TENTH DAY

With profound grief & sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Sh Brij Nath Dhar S/o Lt Sri Kanth Dhar of New Qazi Bhag Anantnag Kashmir At present H No. 286 Lane No 16 Swaran Vihar (Police Colony) Bantalab, Jammu.

Tenth Day will be performed at Muthi Ghat near Directorate of School Education office on 3.8.2024 Saturday at 9 AM.

GRIEF STRICKEN: Sh Brij Nath Dhar Susheela Mob. 9596958382 Smt & Shri H L Dhar -Son Mob. 8717090262 Smt & Sh Bihari Lal Dhar - Son Mob. 9469191788 Smt Shoba Dhar (Sister in law) Smt Kumta Dhar- Sister in law Smt & Sh D P Dhar Smt & Sh V K Dhar 9419331011 Smt & Sh A J Dhar 9419131398 Smt & Sh G L Pandit (Sister & Brother in law) Smt & Sh R L Raina (Sister & Brother in law) Grand Children : Himanshu, Neha, Ashi

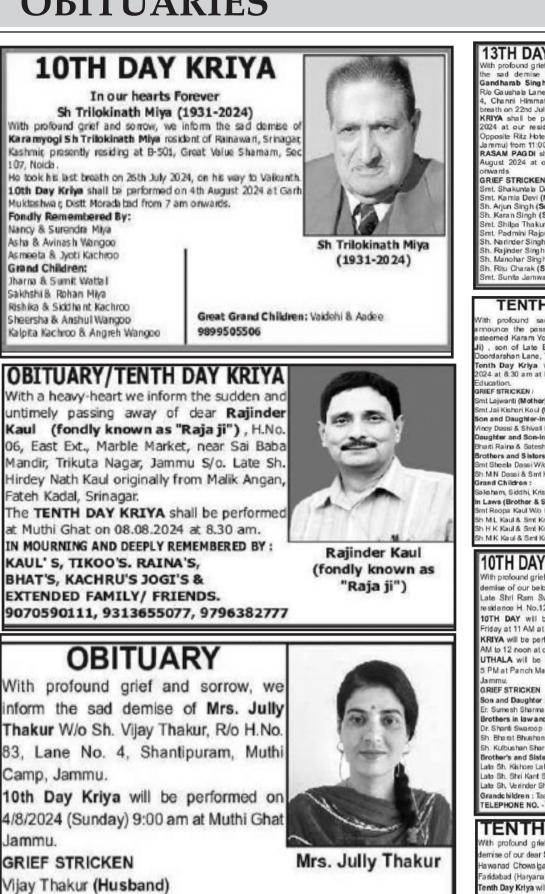
TENTH DAY/KRIYA





Mob. 9967505113. 9419180873





untimely passing away of dear Rajinder Kaul (fondly known as "Raja ji"), H.No. 06, East Ext., Marble Market, near Sai Baba Mandir, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu S/o. Late Sh. Hirdey Nath Kaul originally from Malik Angan, Fateh Kadal, Srinagar.

at Muthi Ghat on 08.08.2024 at 8.30 am. IN MOURNING AND DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY : KAUL' S, TIKOO'S. RAINA'S, BHAT'S, KACHRU'S JOGI'S &

EXTENDED FAMILY/ FRIENDS. 9070590111, 9313655077, 9796382777

Faridabad (Haryana) on 31 st July 2024.



Shri. Sham Lal Kou

ansi La l & Ratanji Koul - Brother & Sister-in-law Maharaj Krishan & Ashaji Koul - Brother & Sister-In-law Shivani & Sh. Jagdish Ji (Daughter & Son-in-law) Sunita & Sh. Mohit Raina (Daughter & Son-in-law Arki & Sh. Rishi Ji (Daughter & Son-in-law) Shana & Sh. Raj Nath Dhar (Sister & Brother-in-law ntosh & Sh. Bihari Lal Dhar (Sister & Brother-in-law arla & Sh. Surinder Koul (Sister & Brother-in-law) amast Gash Koul Parivar / Saraf Parivar (Anantnag) H.No. 2040, Block-C, Sainik Colony, Sector - 49, Faridabad





imt Jai Kishori Koul (Wile) ion and Daughter-In-law /incy Dassi & Shivali Pandita (99 103339 12/98 10 5899 12) aughter and Son-in-law Bharti Raina & Satesh Raina (7889359401) Brothers and Sisters-In-law imt Sheela DassiW/oLate SJ Dassi Sh M N Dassi& Smt KamniDa Grand Children : Saksham, Siddhi, Krishna, Bhavik In Laws (Brother & Sister In Iaw) Smt Reopa Kaul Wio Late P N Kaul Sh M L Kaul & Smt Krishna Piyari Kaul sh H K Kaul & Smt Krishna Kaul



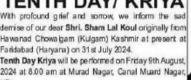
Sh M K Kaul & Smt Kundan Koul (8178420051)

10TH DAY/KRIYA/UTHALA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Smt. Satya Sharma W/o Late Shri Ram Swaroop Sharma (XEN) at ou residence H. No.129/5, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu. 10TH DAY will be performed on 02-08-2024 Friday at 11 AM at our residence. KRIYA will be performed on 03-08-2024 at 8:3 AM to 12 noon at our residence. UTHALA will be performed on 03-08-2024 a 5 PM at Parich Mandir Sector 5-7, Trikuta Naga GRIEF STRICKEN Son and Daughter in law Er. Sumesh Sharma (PDD) and Smt. Reena Sharma Brothers in law and Sisters in law

SMT. SATYA SHARMA Dr. Shanti Swaroop Sharma and Smt. Veaney Sharma Sh. Bha at Bhushan Sharma and Smt Reeta Sharma Sh. Kulbushan Sharma (Reld Dy. Director Prosecution) and Smt. Rajini Sharma Brother's and Sister in Law Late Sh. Kishore Lat Sharma and Smt. Aruna Sharma Late Sh. Shri Kant Sharma and Late Smt. Chandar Mohani Sharma Late Sh. Verinder Sharma Smt. Sheela Sharma Grandchildren : Taanvi, Sayam TELEPHONE NO. - 9419181443, 6006151719

TENTH DAY/ KRIYA





2

13TH DAY/KARAM KRIYA/RASAM PAGDI

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform you, the sad demise of our beloved Late Sh. Gandharab Singh Slo Late Sh. Amir Chand Rio Gaushais Lane Opposite Ritz Hotel Plot No. 4, Channi Himmat Jammu. He took his last breath on 22nd July 2024. 13TH DAY /KARAM KRIYA shall be performed on 3rd of August 2024 at our residence (Rio Gaushal Lane Opposite Ritz Hotel Plot No. 4, Channi Himmat Jammul from 11:00AM onwards Jammu) from 11:00AM onwards RASAM PAGDI shall be performed on 3rd of August 2024 at our residence from 4:00PM ortwards GRIEF STRICKEN: GRIEF STRICKEN: Smt. Kahauntala Devi (Wife) Smt. Kamla Devi (Mother) Sh. Arjun Singh (Son) Sh. Karan Singh (Son) Smt. Shilpa Thakur (Daughter)



LATE SH. GANDHARAB

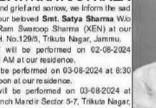
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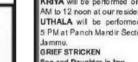














Camp, Jammu.

Vijay Thakur (Husband) Tanish Thakur (Son)

M.No.: 8803155498

TENTH DAY KRIYA

Your warmth, kindness and laughter will forever remain in our hearts. Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat, Jammu on 3rd August

2024 at 9.00 am. DEEPLY REMEMBERED BY ALL NEAR AND DEAR ONES THUSSU FAMILY 243/A, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu - 180004 +91 9891306268, +91 987 1085667

Grand Daughter : Renae Patki

Samast Charagi Parivar

2024.

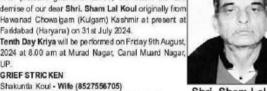
GRIEF STRICKEN

SVIT NANCY BHAT . (WIFE)

10th Day Kriya will be performed on 4/8/2024 (Sunday) 9:00 am at Muthi Ghat

Jammu. **GRIEF STRICKEN**

GRIEF STRICKEN



THAT OUR BELOVED SMT PREM KOUR VERMA W/O SH SAT PAL VERMA, LOVING AND DEAR MOTHER OF LATE SH SUNIL SINGH & DR MONIKA VERMA R/O 8 MOHAN DURGA MARKET, LINK ROAD CHOWK, JAMMU LEFT FOR HEAVENLY ABODE ON MONDAY THE 22ND OF JULY, 2024. 13TH DAY KRIVA WILL BE PERFORMED ON SATURDAY. 3RD OF AUGUST 2024 AT OUR RESIDENCE. UTHALA WILL BE PERFORMED AT LAXMI- NARAYAN TEMPLE, SIRAJAN DI DACCI FROM 4 PM TO 5 PM, ON 3RD OF AUGUST 2024.

SMT PREM KOUR VERMA

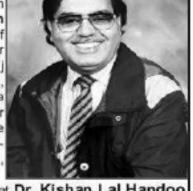
IN GRIEF

SHRI SAT PAL VERMA - HUSBAND LATE SH SUNIL SINGH- SON DR MONIKA VERMA KOUL & DR RAKESH KOUL-DAUGHTER & SON-IN-LAW MIRA KOUL & MIHIR KOUL -GRAND-DAUGHTER & GRANDSON IN-LAWS

MR & MRS BHARAT BHUSHAN TALWAR MR & MRS KULBHUSHAN TALWAR MR & MRS KISHEN CHANDER VERMA

TENTH DAY KRIYA

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Dr. Kishan Lal Handoo, son of Vedh Lal Handoo of Kalwal Mohalla, Rainawari, Srinagar (presently residing at Neel Padamkunj Sector 1, Vaishali, Apartments, Ghaziabad), on the 26th of July. He was a prolific scientist who served as a professor at the University of Sagar and the University of Kashmir. He was also a visiting professor at Utah State University, USA, and the University of Marseille, France.



The 10TH DAY KRIYA will be performed at Dr. Kishan Lal Handoo Gadh Ganga Ghat, Muradnagar, UP, on August 4th, Sunday, at 10:00 AM. GRIEF-STRICKEN Smt. Kishni Handoo - Wife Sh. Vikas Handoo & Smt. Poonam Handoo - Son & Daughter-in-law Sh. Rajesh Kalla & Pamposh Kalla - Son-in-law & Daughter

Grandchildren: Neelesh, Rithik, Shriya ALL NEAR AND DEAR ONES

PH NO.: 9560069101, 9810314806, 9910666519



Maharaj Krishen Thussu

TENTH DAY

With deep grief and sorrow, we announce the passing of Sh. Maharaj Krishen Peer (Bhajan), son of Late Neelkanth and Arandati Peer, formerly of Vicharnag Srinagar, Kashmir, and currently residing at RH 175 Shahunagar, Chinchwad, Pune. The TENTH-DAY ceremony will be held on August 5, 2024, at Morya Gosavi, Dashkriya Vidhi Ghat, Pimpr Chinchwad, Pune, Maharashtra, at 10:30 am. In Mourning, Smt Ratni Peer (Wife) Daughter and Son-in-law Veronica and Kaustubh Patki Sakshi and Urvin Thusu

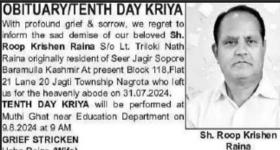
Peer (Bhajan)

S/o Lt. Shri Narayan Pt. Safaya R/o Sharda Vihar, Lane No.1, Santra Morh on 25-07-2024. Tenth Day will be performed on 03-08-2024 at 09.00 am at Muthi Ghat Jammu. GRIEF STRICKEN Smt Krishna Safaya - Wife Brother & Bhabhi Lt. Shri P.L. Safaya & Smt Rajni Safaya Sons & Daughters-in-law Mr Raj Kumar Safaya -Son LL. Mr Ajay Safaya & Mrs Dimple Safaya Mr Vijay Safaya & Mrs Sakshi Safaya Mr Sanjay Safaya & Mrs Neetu Safaya

Daughter & Son-in-law

Shri Bushan Lal Safaya

Grand Children: Mansi, Vasu, Sheenu, Paras, Diksha, Nivid, Arush Ph.No. 9149570578, Mr Sunil Safaya & Mrs Meenakshi Safaya 9906125394, 9419648982, 600 57 28884, 9419 1481 76 Mrs Lalita Razdan and Mr Ashok K. Razdan



9.8.2024 at 9 AM GRIEF STRICKEN Usha Raina (Wife) aksh Raina (Son) Mob. 6005062568 Shriya Raina (Daughter) Mob. 7889956690 Brothers & Sister's in law Smt. Rachna ji & Sh. Ramesh Raina Mob. 9419899756 Smt. Sunita Raina & Lt. Sh Anil ji Raina Smt. Meenakshi Raina & Sh. Rajesh Raina

MOURNING AND TENTH DAY

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform that the sad demise of **Sh. Jagan Nath Handoo** S/o Sh. Shamboo Nath Handoo of Hanand Chawaigam, Kulgam t present Lane No. 2, Adarsh Nagar, Paloura, Jammu. Tenth Day Kriya will be performed at Muthi Ghat Jamm on 8th of August 2024 at 8.30 am. Grief Stricker

Smt. Kanta Ji - Wife

7006638233, 7889830219

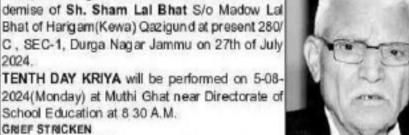


Handoo

Sh. P.K. Handoo & Smt. Sunita Ji -Brother & Sister-In-law Sh. D.K. Handoo & Smt. Sarla Ji -Brother & Sister-in-law Sh. Virender Kalla & Smt. Bimla Ji - Sister & Brother-in-law Sh. Jagan Nath Sh. T.K. Sharma & Smt. Sudesh JI - Sister & Brother-in-law Sh. Ramesh Dhar & Smt. Babita Ji - Son-in-law & Daughte Sh. Roop Krishan Handoo & Smt. Sunita Ji - Son & Daughter-in-law Sh. Pawan Handoo & Smt. Archana Ji - Son & Daughter-in-law & All Nears & Dears with Kids

DISCLAIMER

"Top News of J&K" does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."



SH. SHAM LAL BHAT

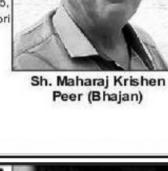
SVIT PINKI & SH P.K. HANGLOO (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW)

SMT UMASHORIE AND SHO.N KOUL (SISTER & BROTHER IN LAW)

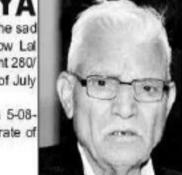
SMT AMRITA & A SHOK BHAT (DAUGHTER IN LAW & SON)

SMT DAZY & MANOU BHAT (DAUGHTER IN LAW & SON)

SMT SIMI& SH VEER JI RAINA (DAUGHTER & SON IN LAW) SMT SAKSH & SH KULDEEP PANDITA (GRAND DAUGHTER & GRAND SON IN LAW) BHAT'S, KOUL'S, SARAF'S, MATTOO'S, HANGLOO'S, RAINA'S & ALL GRAND AND GREAT GRAND CHILDREN PH 9149844404, 9419605383, 7051338040







LOCAL/ ADVT

Sanskrit is not just a language of rituals; it is mother of Sanatan Dharma and culture: Sham Lal

Kashmir should have

knowledge of Sanskrit

along with their local

Purushottam Dadhichi

said that such events

will boost the morale

of Sanskrit lovers. The

culture that develops

from Sanskrit and is

refined by it continues

to inspire world peace

and social development

burden on the govern-

ment treasury and weak-

He highlighted the dis-

parity between the treat-

ment of soldiers, who

sacrifice their lives for the

country, and politicians

who, according to him,

enjoy power and benefits

without making similar

Chandel called for the

immediate cessation of

pensions for MPs and

MLAs, arguing that the

resources should instead

support the families of

martyred soldiers. He

noted that many politi-

cians have amassed

wealth through their

positions, and questioned

how some have become

millionaires, contrasting

them with honest leaders

like Narendra Modi and

occasions and also UCO

Bank, Raghunath Bazar

Branch, for providing free

hygienic drinking water

bottles in sufficient quanti-

ty during the whole yatra.

President requested the

administration to convey

the Sabha well in time

as had been in the past,

when the district admin-

istration used to officially

communicate for the com-

mencement of the yatra

and seeking permission

to utilize the centrally

located, easily acces-

sible premises for setting

up of registration counter

for the convenience of the

pilgrims reaching Jammu

city from different parts

of the country as well as

The cooperation and

contribution of Arun

abroad.

However, the JCMS

Yogi Adityanath.

sacrifices.

ens the economy.

dialect

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: As part of Sanskrit month, Shri Kailakh Jyotish avim Vedic sansthan Trust organized a one-day lecture series on the importance of the Sanskrit language at Government Model Higher Secondary School, Domana, Jammu. The event concluded with a tree plantation.

The chief guest of the event, former Minister Sham Lal Sharma, special guest President of Sanatan Dharma Sabha Purushottam Dadhichi, honored guest SP Rural Brijesh Sharma, and others were present on the occasion.

Sham Lal Sharma said that the trust is playing a significant role in promoting the divine language, Sanskrit. Sanskrit is not just a



language of rituals; it is the mother of Sanatan Dharma and culture. Highlighting the antiquity of the Sanskrit language, he mentioned that Sanskrit has emerged on the global stage as the most precise language even for space.

Knowledge of the Doari language means that people of Jammu and tory bears witness that from ancient times to the modern era, India has never attacked the land of any other country. Rural Jammu SP Brijesh Sharma said that Sanskrit is the oldest

even in today's era. His-

language in the world, in which India's cultural pride is inherent. Today, there is a need for Sanskrit to reach the masses so that India's glorious culture can be further propagated.

President of Shri Kailakh Jyotish avim Vedic sansthan Trust, Mahant Rohit Shastri, said that the script of the Sanskrit language is Devanagari. The sages chose this language for composing mantras because the pronunciation of its words is highly effective in creating proper vibrations in the brain. The Vedas were revealed in

this language, and the Upanishads, Ramayana, Mahabharata, and Puranas were composed in it. Sanskrit literature is the most rich and prosperous in human history. The main reason for organizing this program is to promote the divine language, Sanskrit. On this occasion, the

school principal Mohinder Sharma, students. school staff, Dil Bahadur Singh, SHO Domana Sushil, Vijay Sharma, Sunil Sharma, Rahul Salathia, Yash Seth, Rakesh Singh, Uttam Chand Sharma, Naresh Raina, Rajinder Seth, Angrez Singh, Shamsher Singh, Vijay Kumar, Bindu Kumari, Pawan Salathia, Babu Ram, Kartar Singh, Kuldeep Singh, Aditya Abhiraj Sharma, and other distinguished citizens were present.

Govt should give half pension to parents, wife of patriotic martyrs: Chandel places an unnecessary

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: Hinduist Sanatani BJP senior leader, Raju Chandel has urged the central government to provide half pension assistance to the parents and wife of martyr soldiers who sacrifice their lives for the country

He highlighted a recurring issue where, after receiving the assistance amount, the wife of the martyr may either remarry or abandon her elderly in-laws.

Chandel emphasized that these parents, often left without any support or breadwinner, suffer greatly due to this situation. Therefore, he proposes that the government implement a policy where the family of the martyr soldier receives



half of the pension, with the parents receiving half of the assistance amount and the wife receiving the

other half. Chandel also pointed out that except for leaders like Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, there is a need to re-evaluate the pension system for politicians. He criticized the prac-

tice of providing pensions to leaders, MLAs, and MPs, even after they lose elections, stating that this

Charvee Mahajan of DPS Jammu shines in national level dance sports championship

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: Charvee Mahajan, a young dance prodigy from class I-D at Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu, brought great honour to her school and parents by winning a gold medal in the Classical Infusion Dance performance organized by Harman Dance Institute in Udhampur.

The Jammu & Kashmir Performing Arts Trial was held on July 13, 2024, at Shere-I-Kashmir Police Academy, Udhampur. Charvee received a Certificate of Appreciation and was also selected for the National Performing Arts Championship Trial in Ayodhya Dham, Uttar Pradesh, 2024. She excels not only in co-cur-



ricular activities but also in academics.

The management DPS Jammu, President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC, Dr. Ritu Singh, Director; S.S Sodhi along with Principal-DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chabra and staff congratulated Charvee Mahajan and her parents and extended their best wishes for all her future endeavours.

E-MAIL - History instantion dive

KPC appeals for declaring Kashmiri Pandits as indigenous people of Kashmir Valley

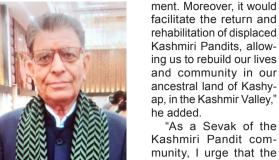
Top News Report

JAMMU Aug 2: For centuries, the Kashmiri Pandit community has been the bedrock of Kashmir's rich cultural and historical tapestry. As the original inhabitants of the Kashmir Valley, our roots run deep, tracing back to the earliest days of civilization in this region. We are the indigenous people of Kashmir, and our connection to the land is profound and unparalleled. It is high time that this truth is formally recognized, and the Kashmiri Pandit community is declared the indigenous people of the Kashmir Valley, with all attendant benefits and protections.

This was stated by Kundan Kashmiri, President KPC in a statement issued on Friday.

"The Kashmiri Pandits' history in the valley is a testament to our enduring presence and contributions. We have not only lived on this land but have also shaped its cultural, intellectual, and spiritual landscape. Our traditions, language, and customs are integral to the identity of Kashmir. Despite this, we have been systematically marginalized, our lands and properties seized under various pretexts, pushing us into a minority in our own homeland" Kundan Kashmiri said.

He added, "The demographic shift in the valley is a stark reminder of the historical injustices faced by our community. Over the centuries, through invasions, forced conversions, and political manipulations, the original Kashmiri Pandits have been displaced, making way for converts, outsiders, and aggressors. This has led to the erosion of our demographic strength and cultural prominence, but not



our rightful claim to our ancestral land."

"Declaring Kashmiri Pandits as the indigenous people of Kashmir Valley is not merely a matter of historical correction; it is a necessary step towards justice. It acknowledges our unique status and ensures that our rights and heritage are protected. This recognition would provide the Kashmiri Pandit community with the legal and social safequards needed to preserve our culture, properties, and way of life," KPC president said. "The benefits of such a declaration are manifold. It would affirm our identity and grant us the protections afforded to indigenous peoples worldwide,

including rights to land,

cultural preservation,

political representation,

and economic uplift-

facilitate the return and rehabilitation of displaced Kashmiri Pandits, allowing us to rebuild our lives and community in our ancestral land of Kashyap, in the Kashmir Valley, he added. "As a Sevak of the Kashmiri Pandit community, I urge that the

3

Kashmiri Pandit community's rightful status as the indigenous people of the Kashmir Valley must be recognized and affirmed. This recognition is a crucial step towards healing the wounds of the past and building a future based on justice, dignity, and respect for the original inhabitants of this beautiful land. We urge the authorities to take immediate action to declare the Kashmiri Pandits as the indigenous people of the Kashmir Valley and to extend all benefits and protections that come with this status," he said.

He requested every individual of our community to support this genuine demand of the Kashmiri Pandits, raised by the Kashmiri Pandit Conference (KPC) over the years, with the government.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No: 433-Sig-T-12-24-25 Closing Date/Time: 23.08.2024 15:00

Date: - 31.07.2024

St. DSTE/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders on https://www.ireps.gov.in against Tender Notice no. 433-Sig-T-12-24-25 Closing Date/Time 23.08.2024 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their originalitevised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only hrough online payment modes available on IREPS portal like Net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed

NITHEADER

00110-001	13.64	100000						
Name of work	Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of Effironics make Data Loggers installed at stations in BAHL-BRML section over Firozpur division for three years. (i) Provision of Road Signals at mid-section interlocked L-sing gates over Firozpur division.							
Tender Closing		23.08.2024 15:00	Date Time of	(i) 30.07.2024				
Date Time			Uploading Tender	(ii) 31.07.2024				
Advertised		(i) 3058817.80	Bidding Start Data	09.08.2024				
Value Rs.)		(ii) 6733754.42	as per IREPS					
Earnest		(1) 61100.00	Period of	(i) 36 Months				
Money (Re.)			Completion	(ii) 6 Months				

2335/24 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE





of Yatra activities in Sabha premises

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: After 31 days, the Registration Counter for Shri Amaranth Yatra was closed at Mahajan Bhawan, Shalamar Road Jammu.

As a gesture, the Sabha had been organising Langar Sewa for Shri Amarnath Yatri throughout this period. More than 25 thousand pilgrims were registered in the counter set up by the administration in the premises of JCMS and almost all of them availed the facilities of free Langar, besides airconditioned hall, wash rooms etc.

Chander Romesh Gupta, President of the sabha, while expressing satisfaction over the 31 days activities of the yatra in the premises of the sabha, said that during the said period no other activity was allowed here and not even a penny was charged from the government for providing the whole complex of sabha for yatra.

He thanked all the Biradari members and other organisations/individuals, who had donated wholeheartedly for Langar Sewa



He also highlighted the role of office bearers, who did all the sincere efforts for the smooth conduct of all the activities in the Sabha premises.

He further expressed his gratitude to the concerned departments for rendering their valuable services during the yatra. He said that the united efforts of various wings of the civil and security forces, particularly SSB, J&K Police, Jal Shakti, PDD, Jammu Municipal Corporation, Health department, Civil Defence, Swaaha Resource (Housing and Urban Development department), besides print and electronic media, who were always keen to show their interest in high lighting such

Gupta, President CCI and his team members and also Anil Gupta (Anu) can not be ignored, he added. The president also showered praises on Subhash Gupta, Sabha Vice President and also media secretary, for handling the media related works.

Shiv Partap Gupta, Sr Vice President also appreciated the role of all the Biradari members who always come forward in such religious and social causes

The prominent personalities who were present included Harinder Gupta (Sr Vice President CP Gupta (Patron), Dr Mohan Lal Gupta (Caisher), Subash Gupta, Balbir Gupta (Langar Incharges), Surinder Gupta, Atul Gupta, Kulbhushan Gupta (Manu), Prabhu Shah, Vipan Gupta (Vice-Presidents), Ram Saroup Gupta, Suresh Gupta, Rajan Gupta, Pawan Gupta, Ashok Gupta, Vijay Gupta, Satish Gupta, Darshan Gupta (Marriage Bureau), Dinesh Gupta, Anil Masoom (Ex. Corporator) Arun Gupta, R C Gupta and Shanti Parkash Gupta.

Batwal community lauds SC's verdict on sub-classification of SCs as a 'great judgement'

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: The Batwal community members at a meeting held on Friday lauded the Supreme Court's verdict under which the States have constitutionally been empowered to make sub-classifications within the

Scheduled Castes, which form a social heterogeneous class, for granting reservation for the uplift of castes that are socially and economically more backward. R.L.Kaith termed the verdict as a 'great judgement' saying it responds to the need for a more nuanced approach to reservations,

ensuring that benefits reach those who are truly disadvantaged.

Among the community members who attended the meeting included Messers Hans Raj Loria, Darshan Kumar Bassa, Des Raj Kaith, Tilak Raj Bassa, Madan Raj Kaith, Naresh Kumar Kaith and Jagdish Raj Kaith

JAL SHAKTI IRRIGATION DIVISION UDHAMPUR Fax:mail:-01992-270985

E-NIT NO. 11 OF 2024-25 Dated:- 30-07-2024

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Short Term E-Tender (in two cover system) Cover-I containing CDR/FDR prequalification documents and Cover-II containing price bid are invited from registered Contractors/firms for the works below:-

5.N 0.	Name of Work	App. Cost (in lacs)	E/Money	Class of Contr.	A.A / T.S No.	Position of funds	Time of Completion	Cost of tender (in Rs)
1.	Construction of Protection work at Shakti Nagar Nallah to save the land of locals W.No. 20(UT Capex)	2.95	5900/-	DEE	Accorded	Partially available	30 days	500/-
2.	Construction of Protection work at Marta near Shiv Temple and land of locals(UT Capex)	1.93	3860/-	DEE	Accorded	Partially available	30 days	500/-
3.	Construction of protection work in Baryaltha village, Pyt Battal, Block Majalta, Tchsil Majalta. (UT Capex).	1.96	3920/-	DEE	Accorded	Partially available	30 days	500/-
4.	Construction of protection work to protect the land of Sh. Mulkh Raj and others in village Dehri, Ramnagar (UT Capex).	1.46	2920/-	DEE	Accorded	Partially available	30 days	500/-

- The bidding documents can be downloaded from the website http:/jktenders.gov.in from 31-07-2024 at 11.00 A.M to 09-08-24 upto 4.00 P.M
- 2. The bids shall be uploaded/submitted in electronic format on the website http:/jktenders.gov.in from 31-07-2024 at 11.00 A.M to 09-08-24 upto 4.00 P.M
- The Complete bidding process will be online.
- 4. The Technical bids & Financial bids uploaded on the website upto due date and same will be opened on 12-08-2024 (12.00 Noon) in the office of the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Udhampur in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on account of holiday the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue, or any other day convenient to opening authority.
- Bidding documents can be seen and downloaded from the website http:/jktenders.gov.in.

Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of documents as mentioned in the above table in the form as specified in the bidding documents. The Cost of Tender given against each should be paid through Challan simply remitting into Treasury under MH: 0702 and uploading treasury Challan receipt along with Tender shall be pledged to Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Udhampur payable at Udhampur & earnest money in the shape of CDR/FDR shall be pledged to Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Udhampur & Shall be valid at least for 360 days from the date of opening of bids. (Note:- The fee on account of downloaded bidding documents shall be acceptable in form of Treasury Challan under MH.: 0702 only). Contractor should mention the name of the work on Top of the Treasury Challan otherwise the Challan shall not be accepted.

7. The bids for the work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 30 days from the date of opening of bids, if any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bids/tender during the said period or

makes any modifications in terms and conditions of the bid, the earnest money of such bidder shall be forfeited.

- The rates mentioned in the BOQ are at par with SSR 2022. The Contractor will quote his item rates of SSR 2022.
- Other details and conditions can be seen in the bidding document.

No. IDU/- 1919-1958 Dated-30-07-2024

DIP/J-3662/24

Sd/-Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Udhampur.

OP-ED

EDFORIAL

Reservation Policy eservation policies are integral to pro-

Reservation policies are integral to promoting social justice and equality within a society. They are designed to uplift marginalized and underrepresented groups by ensuring their access to various opportunities and resources, such as education, employment, and political representation. In many countries, including India, reservation policies are a critical tool for addressing historical disadvantages and systemic discrimination faced by certain communities.

The concept of reservation or affirmative action has its roots in the need to address historical injustices and inequalities. In India, the reservation policy emerged from the recognition that certain communities, including Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), and Other Backward Classes (OBCs), faced significant social and economic disadvantages due to historical discrimination and exclusion.

The Indian Constitution, adopted in 1950, enshrined the principle of affirmative action to promote equality and uplift disadvantaged groups. Articles 15 and 16 of the Constitution provide for reservations in educational institutions and public employment to ensure that these groups have fair opportunities for advancement.

These communities historically faced severe social discrimination and economic backwardness. Reservations are provided in educational institutions, public sector jobs, and political representation to improve their socio-economic status.

OBCs are communities that are economically and socially disadvantaged but do not fall under the SC or ST categories. Reservations are offered to help these groups gain better access to education, employment, and political representation.

Introduced more recently, the EWS reservation provides a certain percentage of reservations for economically disadvantaged individuals from the general category. This aims to ensure that economic status, rather than caste alone, is considered in the reservation framework.

Reservations in educational institutions ensure that students from reserved categories have access to higher education. For instance, in India, a certain percentage of seats in government and aided educational institutions are reserved for SCs, STs, OBCs, and EWS.

The reservation policy is also applied to public sector jobs, ensuring that a proportion of positions are allocated to individuals from reserved categories. This is intended to promote diversity and equal representation within the workforce. Reservations are also implemented in legislative bodies, such as the Parliament and State Legislatures, to ensure adequate representation of SCs and STs. This aims to give these communities a voice in decision-making processes and governance.

Kamala entry opens race: Dems cheer, Gop in a fix

By: K.C Singh

The Joe Biden-Donald Trump presidential debate on June 27 unleashed cascading events which eventually ended with President Joe Biden's withdrawal from the race on July 21. In between came the assassination attempt on former President Donald Trump. President Biden addressed the media to allay concerns about his physical and mental fitness for another term, but worsened matters with each appearance. The pressure mounted as big donors and even former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Hollywood icon George Clooney joined in the demands for his exit. The failed Trump assassination worsened matters as Mr Trump gained public sympathy and enthused his faithful. Also Read -Saeed Naqvi | In Middle East's endgame, where will Israel finally be left standing? Advertisement The denouement was sudden as Mr Biden, confined to his seaside retreat due to testing positive for Covid-19, quietly released a letter on July 21 announcing his exit. Quickly thereafter, he endorsed his vice-president Kamala Devi Harris as his favoured replacement. She in turn acted with great dispatch to neutralise potential rivals and garner the support of a majority of the 3,636 delegates to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago on August 19-22. Also Read - Nilanjan Mukhopadhyay | Push for Bengal's division will be damaging for BJP Ms Harris has strengths and weaknesses. First, the element of surprise catches the Trump campaign geared to handling President Biden. Now they must quickly recalibrate and devise a new line of attack. Second, because she was not an overly pro-active vice-president, she can disassociate from the unpopular policy decisions of the Biden presidency. Third, being two decades younger than Mr Trump,

the age argument, which was Mr Biden's albatross, now hangs around Mr Trump's neck. Also Read - Dilip Cherian | Rajiv Gauba all set to retire as longest-serving Cabinet Secy On the negative side, she hails from California, and is thus easily labelled as a liberal. There is also finger-pointing that she got political patronage dating an older and powerful politician, Willie Brown, though he was separated from wife. Also, she faces the same gender bias that Hillary Clinton encountered in 2016. She also was labelled during the 2020 presidential primaries as an excessively tough enforcer of the law on African-American criminals as the district attorney of San Francisco (2004-11) and attorney-general of California (2011-17). Also Read - Suman Sahai | Heat shelters are urgently needed as world's climate is changing swiftly On policy issues, her strong defence of women's reproductive rights should help her gain women's support nationally. This is the reverse of the stand of J.D. Vance, Mr Trump's running mate. Ms Harris has also been able to quickly distance herself from the Biden administration's almost unconditional support to Israel on the Gaza war. As civilian casualties mounted, public opinion in the US, especially across premier university campuses, fractured. She signalled discomfort by skipping Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's address to the US Congress. She met him separately and apparently conveyed her unhappiness over the Israeli operations. The bread and butter issue for Republicans, and especially Donald Trump, is immigration. They label her as the "tsar" of immigration when her role was limited to exploring the root causes of the problem. She went on her first foreign trip as vice-president to Guatemala in 2021 to study how migration could be blocked at the source. The Democratic riposte is that it was Donald Trump who blocked a bipartisan deal on the subject in the Congress. The Biden administration did slow down the border wall construction and stop the terrible practice of separating children from parents. But walls do not stop the movement of people. The solution lies in a mix of law enforcement and economic evolution of countries of Central and South America. Ms Harris' likely nomination elicited excitement in India. Jocularly, considering that Mr Vance's wife is a Telugu, some called it an Andhra Pradesh versus Tamil Nadu contest. Levity aside, any person of Indian origin, and even less one of mixed race, born and brought up in the United States, will first think of US interests. Our permanent representatives to the United Nations, when Nikki Haley was the US ambassador, did not get any special treatment officially from her. However, at a social level, she was easier to engage. However, Ms Harris has in the past stood for freedom and human rights. She supported, while she was a senator, an Indian-origin colleague whom external affairs minister S. Jaishankar had once rebuked by cancelling a meeting. As President, she would view occasional actions of the Indian government to compromise human rights and democratic institutions in the broader context of strengthening Indo-US relations. But personal comfort in dealing with the Indian leadership is a different matter. Thus, bilateral relations may not be visibly affected but, in her case, personal warmth may well evaporate. Donald Trump, when last in office, was shrewdly managed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, through a mix of flattery and public theatre. But a Trump presidency will always have unpredictable dimensions. In his latest interview with Businessweek, he is still fixated on his Harley Davidson story and Indian motorcycle imports. He recounts how company

executives, when meeting him in the White House, had cribbed about the difficulties of doing business. He adds: "I said 'You mean like India'. India's an amazing abuser. One of the best." The story proceeds: "Let me guess: India's tariffing you, right?" The story continues with Indian tariffs of 200 per cent imposed to compel them to open an Indian plant, thereby shutting the American one. The facts: Indian duty on motorcycle imports was 50 per cent. Harley announced an Indian plant in 2010, six years before Mr Trump entered office. Talleyrand's quote about a French dynasty applies aptly to Donald Trump: "The Bourbons have learnt nothing and forgotten nothing". In Mr Trump's case, it also covers all fact-free stories. India-US relations are close and multidimensional, but the Indian commitment to strategic independence jars the Americans occasionally. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to Moscow as the 75th anniversary summit of Nato opened in Washington is one such example. India will manage bilateral relations with whoever gets elected as the US President. But geopolitically, a Trump presidency will cause far more disruption. He will blindly back Israel, increasing the possibility of an Israel-Iran conflict. The situation has already worsened with the killing of the top leaders of Hamas, in Iran, and of Hezbollah in Lebanon. His solution to the Ukraine war rests on the acceptance by Ukraine of the status quo. This can cause fissures in Nato. Mr Biden had largely followed Mr Trump's China policy which Mr Trump will happily resume. The European nations and US allies in the Pacific, including Japan, are already mentally preparing for a world with an isolationist US. The Trump-proofing of foreign policies is perhaps underway even in China and Russia. Hopefully, South Block is similarly attuned.

Increasing Population and Decreasing Resources

By: Vijay Garg

ildly increasing population is one of the big-▼ gest problems in the world today. In many countries of the world, the resources available there are now decreasing in proportion to the increasing population. Obviously, if the population of any country continues to grow at a rapid pace, the pressure on the natural resources available there will also increase in the same proportion. If we look at it in the context of India, on July 7, 2024, India's population was 1 billion 44 crore 19 lakh 10,332. It covers approximately 18.02 percent of the world's total population (8.119 billion).But who is forced to live on only two and a half percent of the world's land. According to the United Nations' global report on food crisis released at the end of April this year, today about 282 million people in 59 countries around the world are forced to remain hungry. According to the report, due to deteriorating food security in the war-torn Gaza Strip and Sudan, more than 24 million people had to go hungry due to lack of food by 2022. If seen, the report of the United Nations clearly indicates that as the world's population increased, so did the number of people. The number also continued to increase. The first report of the United Nations on food shortage came in 2016, compared to which in the latest report the number of hungry people around the world has increased by four times. It is worth noting that the increasing population is not a simple task of providing basic needs like food, clothing, shelter, drinking water, medical care, medicines etc. to all the citizens in proportion to the population. To supply increasing population to any government is

due to various sources of energy, oil and natural coal, oil natural gases etc. are also highly dependent on The pressure has increased, to reduce which it is necessary to find and use alternative sources of energy. Economist Thomas Robert Malthus, after mathematically considering the relationship between food and human population in 1798, showed that increasing food supply leads to rapid population growth. increases and depletes the available resources. • Resulting in continued human suffering. Unless the population is controlled. In 1888, the then Viceroy Lord Dufferin had expressed the apprehension that agriculture in India would The production is low and due to rapid population growth famine occurs here. Despite this, India's average population growth rate from 1871 to 1941 was 0.60 percent, while the world average was 0.69 percent. However, in the first two decades of the twentieth century the population growth rate remained relatively low. 1931 Census of 1931 revealed that the population in India increased at the rate of one percent every year between 1921-1931, everyone was shocked, but after 1951 this rate reached around two percent. However, since the 1970s, there has been a continuous decline in the country's population growth rate. This is probably the result of improvements made in the level of education and health in the last few decades, because till now the rate of population growth has been found highest in those areas where people are not educated and healthy. Although this decline has been relatively slow, if we look at the Economic Survey data, the annual population growth rate in India which was 2.5 percent between 1971-81, came down to 1.3 percent by the middle of 2011-16.

The other side of this is that due to increase in population and decrease in resources, countries are in debt. The burden also starts increasing. According to a report by Business Standard, by September 2023, the total debt burden on India had reached Rs 205 lakh crore. At the same time, according to a report released in 2021 by the World Economic Forum, India's rank in education quality is 90th. According to a UN report on population released on November 15, 2022, India will overtake China by 2027, whereas in April 2023 itself, defying the UN's assessment, India became the most populous country in the world by overtaking China. United in February 2024The nation itself had released another report. Although in 2011 There has been no census in India since. However, unemployment, hunger, malnutrition, disease, poverty, helplessness etc. arising due to uncontrolled population growth are such problems which can destroy the moral, ideological, cultural, traditional and moral fabric of any society. Are. Due to this, the social development, cultural upliftment, mental and spiritual upliftment of the individuals may get hampered if this happens. So violence all around in the societyThere will be a huge increase in crimes like rape, corruption, looting, baiting, theft, snatching, murder, suicide, extremism and terrorism. People will only pursue their own interests without caring about law and social order. More or less, our country is passing through similar circumstances today. By the way, if we talk about India's experiences regarding population, it is surprising for any Prime Minister of the country except Gandhi that during the tenure of Prime Minister Indira, no drastic steps were taken by the government, which

could curb the uncontrolled population growth.Can be installed., Perhaps the governments may have been avoiding angering the public, because before independence, there was a perception in the Indian society that high population was the measure of development. Actually, in those days the decrease in population was considered to be the result of negative circumstances, which was a bad situation, but with time our thinking changed and we started considering whether India is capable of handling such a large population. . The tragedy of severe drought and famine occurring from time to time also underlined this concern.Pillow. But till the 1970s, our governments kept looking for a solution to population growth by increasing food grain production and family planning programs were strictly adopted, and then politicians became very angry at the increasing population. He thought it better to remain silent. Even after globalization, the issue of population remained pressing in India, but the current Prime Minister, on the occasion of Independence Day in 2019, expressed concern over population growth from the ramparts of the Red Fort and called on the states to make plans to stop it.Did. Presenting the interim Budget 2024, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced the formation of a high-powered committee to address the challenges of rapidly increasing population and demographic changes, keeping in mind the goal of creating a 'developed India'. Will give suggestions to deal with the problems.

While reservation policies aim to promote equity, they are not without controversy and challenges. Some of the common criticisms include: Critics argue that reservations may compromise

meritocracy by prioritizing caste or community over merit. This can lead to concerns about the quality of education and services.

There are concerns that reservation policies may reinforce caste identities rather than fostering a more integrated society. Critics argue that affirmative action could potentially perpetuate divisions rather than resolving them.

In some cases, individuals from relatively welloff families within reserved categories may benefit from reservations, leading to concerns about the efficacy and fairness of the policy.

To address these challenges, several reforms and adjustments have been proposed.

Incorporating economic criteria into the reservation framework (e.g., EWS reservations) aims to address disparities within reserved categories and focus on economic disadvantage rather than only caste.

Regular reviews and updates of reservation policies ensure that they remain relevant and effective in addressing current socio-economic realities.

Ensuring that reservations do not compromise quality by providing additional support mechanisms, such as remedial education and skill development programs, can help bridge the gap.

Reservation policies are a crucial mechanism for promoting social justice and ensuring equitable access to opportunities for marginalized communities. While they face challenges and criticisms, ongoing reforms and a balanced approach can help address these issues and enhance the effectiveness of these policies. By fostering an inclusive society and addressing historical disadvantages, reservation policies contribute to a more equitable and just social framework.

(Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational Columnist Malout Punjab)

LOCAL

DDC Reasi calls on Principal Secretary PDD, raises public issues

Top News Report

REASI, Aug 2: A delegation led by Babu Jagjeevan Lal, District Development Council (DDC) member from Reasi, met with the Principal Secretary of the Power Development Department (PDD) in Jammu to seek immediate intervention on several critical issues, particularly the improvement of the power distribution network in Reasi District

Babu Jagjeevan Lal highlighted that various areas in Reasi suffer from poor power supply due to inadequate infrastructure and lack of augmentation of distribution transformers

He requested the swift implementation of the **Revamped** Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS)

and le

by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) under the supervision of PDD, which has yet to commence in Reasi District. He emphasized the limited funds available at the

ing power infrastructure and stressed the importance of fully implementing centrally sponsored schemes in remote areas Additionally, Lal called

for the augmentation of DDC level for augmentdistribution transformers

in villages such as Sirla, Anji, Panaasa, Simbla, and Choa.

He also expressed concern over the insufficient manpower in the power sector in Reasi, advocating for the rationalization of manpower from various districts in Jammu Province and the allocation of adequate posts at various levels in Reasi.

Lal highlighted the urgent need to relocate the 132KV transmission line from Panchayat Kharal due to its passage through residential areas, which has caused casualties in the past due to lightning strikes. He urged the relocation of the transmission line to

bypass residential areas for safety. Furthermore, Lal

addressed the issue of non-regularization of

PDL (Probationary Daily Labour) and TDL (Temporary Daily Labour) workers in Reasi working in various departments, including the PDD. He noted that despite the framing of regular-

ization rules by PDD corporations, very few daily wagers have been regularized in recent years, affecting thousands of families. He also demanded the reinstatement of engineers from Reasi who were suspended due to poor Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) losses. The Principal Secretary of PDD gave a patient hearing, took note of all the issues raised, and expressed a commitment to addressing the

concerns and demands brought forth by the DDC.

GDC Udhampur organises National Anthem Competition, Cleanliness Drive

Top News Report

UDHAMPUR, Aug 2: Government Degree College (GDC) Udhampur proudly initiated the Swachhta Pakhwada programme, marking it as a significant part of the 77th Independence Day celebrations. This event was graced by Principal Prof. (Dr) Sanjay Verma, who delivered an inspiring address to the students and faculty members present.In his address, Professor Dr. Sanjay Verma emphasized the importance of cleanliness and environmental responsibility, tying it to the spirit of Independence. He stated, "As we celebrate 77 years of our nation's freedom, it is imperative that we remember the responsibility that comes with it. Cleanliness is not just about the physical aspect; it's about cultivating a

mindset of discipline and respect for our surroundings. Our actions today will shape the future of our country, and it is up to each one of us to contribute to a cleaner and greener India."The cleanliness Drive was coordinated by POs NSS, Prof Gurpreet Kour and Prof Sanjeet Singh and ANO NCC, Prof Vijay Kumar. The National Anthem Competition, organized by Cultural Ccommitte of the college, witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, with a total of 20 participants. The jury panel comprised esteemed faculty members: Prof Rahul Sharma, Head of the Hindi Department, Prof Anju Rani, Head of the Dogri Department, and Prof Pooja. The competition concluded with the following winners:1st position went to Laksh Dogra, whereas2nd and 3rdPositions were secured by Vishal Kumarand Rohit Kumar, respectively.

5

The event was wellattended by faculty members, including Prof Praveen Singh, Prof Revika Arora (Convener of the Cultural Committee), Prof Meena Gupta, Monika Thakur, Prof Prof Rakesh Kumar, Prof Richa, Prof Jasmeet Kour, Prof Shweta Sharma and Prof Vijay Kumar.

Prof Revika Arora extended the vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all participants, jury members, and attendees for making the event a resounding success. She highlighted the importance of continued efforts towards maintaining cleanliness and environmental sustainability. urging everyone to carry forward the momentum of the Swachhta Pakhwada initiative.

GGM Science College organises Painting Competition under theme "Heroes of the Freedom Struggle"



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: The NSS and NCC units of GGM Science College held a painting competition under the theme "Heroes of the Freedom Struggle" as part of Independence Day celebrations

The event was organized under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal of GGM Science College.

He reviewed the paintings and praised the students for their artistic representations of key moments in the freedom struggle, encouraging

their continued participation in such meaningful

activities He also applauded the initiatives taken by NSS, NCC and other club members for actively participating and making this series of progammes under the banner of "Independence Day celebrations" a great suc-

cess supervised by Lt. Dr. Devinder Kumar Sharma, Dr Shafia Saleem, Dr. Rahul Kait and Dr. Neha Sharma, ANO's and PO's of the College Their oversight contrib-

uted to the event's suc-

cess. Prof. Kiran Bala, HoD Biotechnology and Dr. Nisha Slathia, HoD Geography acted as

tionally, students par-

ticipated in a cleanliness

drive within the class-

rooms, conducted under

the banner of "Swachhata

Abhiyaan", highlighting

their commitment to both

maintaining a clean envi-

ronment and engaging in

ers are receiving pay-

ments through multiple

UPI accounts to hide their

actual turnovers aimed

to show suppressed sale

and avoid issuing tax

invoices". She added that

such trend is in notice of

the department and soon

a drive will be launched

to check these violations.

sioner also urged the tax-

payers to keep their stock

positioning and directed

STOs for frequent inspec-

tions of stocks in case of

mismatch. She added

that the department has

noticed that many impor-

tant communications do

not reach to potential

dealers, due to which

department and taxpay-

cases where dealers are

not aware of non-compli-

ance or demand notices

we issue because their

own phone number is not

"I have noticed many

ers suffered.

The Additional Commis-

community service.

adjudicators of the painting competition. Archita Verma (Sem III), Ayush Shan (Sem-III) and Amandeep Singh (Sem-III) were adjudged as 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively in this competition. Addi-

The competition was

Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Dr. Ajaz retired from service and highlighted his role

Top News Report

DODA, Aug 2: Dr. Ajaz, the highly respected Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, has retired, marking the end of a distinguished career characterized by dedication and integrity. Known for his honesty and commitment, Dr. Ajaz has been a pivotal figure in the departas a model for others in the department. Singh extended his gratitude to the officers and subordinate employees for organizing the event, acknowledging their unwavering support and cooperation

Dr. Ajaz's retirement is



ment, inspiring colleagues and subordinates alike.

At a heartfelt farewell event, ACD Kishtwar, Falail Singh, lauded Dr. Ajaz as an exemplary officer.

He praised Dr. Ajaz devotion to his work

throughout Dr. Ajaz's

tenure a significant moment for



the Animal Husbandry Department, as it bids farewell to a leader whose contributions have left an indelible mark on the community. His legacy of honesty and excellence will con-

tinue to inspire future generations of officers.

Pakhwada program

GDC Darhal launches Swachta



sion on the significance of

cleanliness and its impact

on overall well-being. It

was followed by a collec-

tive effort to clean and san-

itize the college's premises

The participants collabo-

rated to clean up the vicin-

ity, removing debris, and

focusing on waste segre-

gation to ensure effective

Student volunteers from

the college also highlight-

ed the importance and role

Speaking about the

event, Principal, Prof Zamir

Ahmed Mirza expressed

his gratitude towards the

enthusiastic participation

of all the volunteers and

He emphasized the

importance of community-

driven initiatives in creat-

of UBA to the locals.

disposal

participants

by all the participants.

Top News Report

DARHAL, Aug 2: To foster community engagement and promote the values of cleanliness and hygiene, the National Service Scheme (NSS) and Swachhta Pakhwada Program of Govt. Degree College Darhal today organize cleanliness drive in the College Campus.

The initiative witnessed active participation of volunteers, students, faculty members, and local residents as well

various activities, such as cleanliness and sanitation awareness sessions. waste collection and disposal, and beautification of public spaces.

On the first day of the

ing lasting and positive impacts on the environment and society.

Dr Ghulam Abass, Coordinator of Swachhta Pakhwada Program, and Dr. Mohd Akhlaq, coordinator of NSS, played a valuable role in making the drive successful.

The event concluded on a high note, with participants pledging to continue maintaining the cleanli-ness of their surroundings and spreading awareness about hygiene practices. The efforts put forth by the volunteers stand as a testament to the dedication towards the betterment of society and the nation as

a whole. A large number of students and staff members participated in the Program. Prominent among others were Dr. Mohd Saleem, Dr. Taseem Ahmed and Prof. Anzar

drive, volunteers gathered at GDC Darhal to take part in an informative ses-

The event was conducted under the banner of Swachhta Pakhwada Program.

The event comprised

Additional Commissioner STD Jammu chairs 'Dealers Meet' under 'Know Your Dealer' initiative



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: Additional Commissioner, State Taxes department (STD), Administration & Enforcement Jammu, Namrita Dogra on Friday cautioned the taxpayers over consequences of fraudsters using fake or multiple QR (quick response) codes and showing sale suppression. She also urged dealers to use own credentials like phone number and e mail getting GST registration to receive timely notification and communication.

Chairing a 'Dealers Meet' with taxpayers of Circle B of Jammu, the Additional Commissioner reviewed financial position of first quarter of fiscal year 2024-25 ending this June and devised strategy for revenue argumentation for remaining three quarters. She stressed on 100% return filing compliance and urged dealers to ensure that 99.99 percent of return filing well before the last date.

Appreciating the dedication and honesty of Jammu City's dealers, the Additional Commissioner said that Jammu City's taxpayers traditionally remained obedient and file their respective taxes on time, which is expected in future too. She laid stress on 100% return compliance and clearing all the blocked payments. She also encouraged the business representatives to openly share their grievances with concerned STO.

Highlighting an analysis, the Additional Commissioner said, "We have noticed that some food vendors, restaurants, hoteliers and other trad-

registered with department, so I urge you all to register GST with personal email and mobile numbers to receive timely notification and effective communication," she said.

Earlier, State Tax Officer, Circle-B Neeraj Sharma briefed the attendees about agenda of meeting and introduced the dealers, which includes dealers from multiple trades like automobiles, restaurants & hotels, work contracts, garment, electronics, paints & varnishing, service sector, tuition centers, consultancies, mobile and other retail sector.

The meeting was part of Commissioner State Taxes Jammu and Kashmir, P K Bhat's initiative 'Know Your Dealer', launched to increase communication of circle level officers with the taxpayers to know their trade specific grievances and shortfalls.

The meeting was pivotal for getting feedback from taxpayers and to make them aware of consequences of non-compliance and tax evasions with a view to create deterrence amongst the taxpayers.

One to one discussion was held with each representative of business to assess sector wise business and tax position.

GDC Boys Kathua organises cleanliness drive

Top News Report

KATHUA, Aug 2: NSS Units and NCC Wings of GDC (Boys) Kathua has organized a cleanliness drive within the campus on Friday under the overall guidance of worthy principal of the college Prof. Seema Mir.

The college is organizing series of activities w.e.f 1st to 15th August 2024 for the celebration of 78th Indian Independence Day 2024. So, today on 2nd August the college conducted cleanliness drive within the college premises. The objective of this activity is to reinforce the principles of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan while involving youth in the environmental conservation and instilling a sense of responsibility. Around sixty students participated in this cleanliness drive in which both NSS volunteers and NCC cadets took part.

Various faculty members were present during this program namely Dr. R.K Manhas, Dr. Yash Paul Sharma, Prof. Shivani Kotwal, Dr. Ram Singh, Dr. Gotam Singh, Sandeep Sharma (PTI), NSS Program officers Dr. Kulbir Singh, Prof. Arvind Kumar and Dr. Pinkey and NCC ANOs Prof. Raj Kumari, Prof. Ajay Sharma and Dr. Daya Ram.

RGCN, Nari Shakti Manch organize seminar on women empowerment

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: Raiiv Gandhi College of Nursing, Jammu in collaboration with Nari Shakti Manch, Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh and Bharatiya Stree Shakti (the organizations committed to empowering women and promoting gender equality in India through various initiatives and events striving to create opportunities for women to thrive and contribute to the nation's development) proudly organized a highly impactful event focusing on the crucial topic of "Role of Women in Developing India." The event witnessed an enthusiastic participation from students, faculty, and esteemed guests, all coming together to celebrate and discuss the significant contributions of women in shaping the future of India. The event started with the plantation drive by the guests and, further

they were welcomed by Maroofa, a student of Rajiv Gandhi College of Nursing followed by the lamp lighting ceremony by Naina Sehsarabudhe (Vice President Bhartiya Stree Shakti), Dr. Maneesha Kothekar (Organizing general secretary Bhartiya Stree Shakti), Mamta Singh (President Nari Shakti Manch, Jammu

Kashmir & Ladakh), Dr

Shalini (Professor, Govt B.Ed College), Abhimanyu Katoch (MD, Kawa Group), Anjana Bavouria (Director, RGCN), the students further performed Saraswati Vandana.

Mamta Singh (President Nari Shakti Manch) highlighted the importance of recognizing and empowering women's roles in various sectors, she further highlighted the significance of women's contribution to India's growth, emphasizing education, skill development, entrepreneurship and addressing gender bias

This was followed by an inspiring and informative session by the eminent speaker and guest, Dr. Maneesha Kothekar (Organizing General Secretary Bhartiya Stree Shakti), who emphasized the need for increased opportunities and support for women to fully realize their potential in contributing to the nation's development. She further focused on the exemplary works of the women in the development of traditional and modern era. Naina Further

Sehsarabudhe (Vice President Bhartiya Stree Shakti)said that the role of women in developing India is multifaceted and crucial for the nation's progress. As India continues to evolve economically, socially, and politically, the contributions of women in various sectors are increasingly being recognized and celebrated.

She further expressed her gratitude to all participants, speakers, and organizers for making the event a grand success. She reiterated the organization's commitment to continuing its efforts in advocating for gender equality and empowering women to play a pivotal role in India's development.

The program was successfully hosted by Asma and Sanober students of B.Sc N 3rd Sem and managed by the faculty members of the college naming Sonia Nanda, Pallavi Sharma, Masrat, Tariq, Govind Pareek, Tania Malhotra, Nekha Rani along with supporting staff naming Poonam, Neetu, Babita Fotedar, Suraj, Vijay.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by MsSrishtaSotra, who appreciated the collective efforts of everyone involved in making the event a memorable and enlightening experience. The day ended on a high note with participants feeling inspired and motivated to contribute positively towards building a more inclusive and progressive India.

ENTERTAINMENT

Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha, Ulajh sell less than **1000 tickets each in pre-sales: Report**

This week's Bollywood releases - Ajay Devgn and Tabu's Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha and Janhvi Kapoor's Ulajh - aren't looking up at the box office.

After the solo release from last week - Shawn Levy's buddy Marvel movie Deadpool & Wolverine - made waves at the domestic box office, things aren't looking up for this week's releases. As per a report by agency, Neeraj Pandey's romantic saga Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha and Sudhanshu Saria's spy thriller Ulajh haven't been able to sell more than 1000 tickets each in pre-sales. Pre-sales

6

The report states that Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha, starring Ajay Devgn and Tabu, has sold less than 1000 tickets in presales. The other Bollywood release this week - Janhvi Kapoor-starrer Ulajh - has collected even less than 750 tickets. These sales are



even lower than Sudha crore, on Friday. Auron Mein Kahan Kongara's release from last month - Sarfira, Dum Tha was initially starring Akshay Kumar. scheduled to release a As per Sacnilk, so far, month ago on July 5. Auron Mein Kahan Dum However, the unstop-Tha has collected 49.79 pable box office run of the holdover release lakh at the box office and is likely to finish between Nag Ashwin's dystopian 2 and 3 crore on opening sci-fi epic Kalki 2898 AD prompted distributors to day. Meanwhile, Ulajh is estimated to finish even request the makers to lower, between 1 and 2 push Auron Mein Kahan

Dum Tha to a new release date. Ulajh has also released this week after a couple of delays. About the films

Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha is directed by Neeraj Pandey of A Wednesday, Special 26, and Baby-fame. It marks the 10th film of Ajay and Tabu together, who've delivered hits like Thak-

shak, Golmaal Again, De De Pyaar De, and the Drishyam franchise. Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha is a love story that spans decades. Shantanu Maheshwari and Sai Manirekar play the younger versions of Ajay and Tabu respectively, while Jimmy Sherigill also has a pivotal role. Meanwhile, Ulajh also stars Gulshan Devaiah and Roshan Mathews. It has been predominantly shot in London. The Hindustan Times review states, "Ulajh rushes and expects viewers to be on the same page wherever the ride makes a jarring halt. The problem with films based on inter-country conflicts is they want to be taken seriously, but still rely on convenience to drive

the plot forward."

Madhuri Dixit to celebrate 40 years in the entertainment industry with fans

actress, known for her

enduring charm, plans

to celebrate this mile-

stone by reconnecting

with her fans. Madhuri

Dixit will be touring the



Bollywood superstar Madhuri Dixit, who made her debut with the film Abodh on August 10, 1984, is marking an impressive 40 years in the entertainment USA from August 8 to 11 in a special four-city tour aptly titled 'The Forever Queen of Bollywood — Madhuri Dixit.' The megastar will visit New York, Dallas, New Jersey and Atlanta, providing fans with an opportunity to celebrate this momentous occasion with her.

About the tour, Madhuri said, "I have always loved meeting my fans because the feedback I get from them is amazing. Sometimes they come up and tell me how the roles I have played in films have impacted their own lives or what kind of roles they would like to see me in. This exchange of thoughts is something I look forward to, and I love getting to know who they are and what their lives are like. I have always cherished these interactions."

Rashmika Mandanna and Vicky Kaushal walk for Falguni and Shane **Peacock at ICW finale**

National Award-winner Vicky Kaushal said he was reminded of his wedding with Bollywood star Katrina Kaif as he walked the ramp for designers Falguni and Shane Peacock at the grand finale of the Hyundai FDCI India Couture Week 2024. The designer duo presented their latest collection Rang Mahal on the last day of the fashion gala.

The actor, currently basking in the success of Bad Newz, turned showstopper for the couturiers, along with Rashmika Mandanna, his co-star in the upcoming period drama Chhava.

Vicky shared, "I was watching the show backstage live on the



Instagram page of Falguni Shane Peacock because I wanted to see what the energy was. I was genuinely blown away by the work you guys have created. The detailing, royalty, and grandeur was

amazing. To be very honest, I really felt like calling Katrina and telling her So many of the outfits

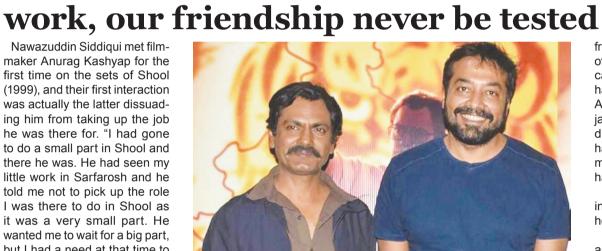
maker Anurag Kashyap for the first time on the sets of Shool (1999), and their first interaction was actually the latter dissuading him from taking up the job he was there for. "I had gone to do a small part in Shool and there he was. He had seen my little work in Sarfarosh and he told me not to pick up the role I was there to do in Shool as it was a very small part. He

wanted me to wait for a big part, but I had a need at that time to pick up that work, so I did it," the actor shares.

Nawazuddin Siddigui met film-

'All about vibe'

Even after starting on that note, that equation transformed into a beautiful friendship, and according to Siddiqui, it was all about the vibe. "When we met the first time, I felt ye meri vibe ka banda hai. Even before I got work, I had this feeling that this man will take care of me in every way. There was that connection as he gives out such positive



Nawazuddin: Not asked Anurag Kashyap for

energy," he says. 'I got to him jab main chaaron

taraf se phans jata hun' It's often said that you shouldn't work with friends, rather make friends at work, but when Siddigui and Kashyap got together for Gangs Of Wasseypur (2012), it was a ball. "Creative differences are always there, but maza tab hi hai jab milke ek rai pe pahuchein. I feel having creative differences is necessary as everyone has a

different thought process," he says, adding, "Anurag wo insan hai jisko main friend bhi nahi bol sakta par friend hai. Jab main chaaron taraf se phans jata hun, I go to him for the correct advice, and he always pulls me out of it." 'Anurag ko mujhse aur mujhko Anurag se lalach hi nahi hai kisi cheez ka'

While their friendship has had its ups and downs, the 50-yearold admits there hasn't been a single situation where their

friendship has been on the verge of breaking up. "Such a situation can never happen because I have never asked for work from Anurag. Hamari industry mein jab kaam wali dosti hoti hai, tab differences aane start ho jate hain. Par Anurag ko mujhse and mujhko Anurag se lalach hi nahi hai kisi cheez ka," he insists.

'He is very careless regarding his health, want him to be healthy'

Kashyap is often referred to as the controversy's child and while Siddiqui enjoys his friend's blunt attitude, he admits that he has wanted to stop him at time. "I have never said it to him, but many times I have wanted to. But if I am ever in such a situation, Anurag always calls me out on it," he says, revealing the one thing he wants to change in his friend: "I will change his carelessness. He is very careless regarding his health, and I

Peacock. I feel beautiful and confident."

ally."

wedding because of the

things she wanted par-

ticularly. I was like 'This!

I spotted that and that!'

Katrina is currently on a

flight, I'll tell her eventu-

As for Rashmika, she

said, "I felt like an Indian

princess wearing a gar-

ment by Falguni Shane

want him to be in the best state health-wise.'

Brinda review: Trisha Krishnan's police procedural explores zealotry with sensitiveness

Brinda review: Engaging web series in Telugu have been few and far in between. Some lack the sensitiveness to deal with current issues while others resort to taking the easy way out. Surya Manoj Vangala's Brinda, though, will force you to reflect on the pitfalls of extremism - religious or otherwise - without resorting to sensationalism. Old superstitions, a rare bird, mysterious murders, a cult and spine drive this story.

Brinda story Brinda (Trisha Krishnan) is a newly-appointed SI who faces sexism at the police station she works at by day and is plagued by nightmares come evening. She has to put up with her younger sister's smart mouth at home and pushback from superiors at work, there's no respite. Despite being asked not to, she digs deeper into what seems like a unique case of killing on the surface, only for it to unravel into something far more sinister. Making it worse is the fact that she's finding answers she has sought for ages, but it's not what she hoped for. Brinda review Right from the get go,

Surva makes it clear that this is not the kind of series you watch while snacking on popcorn with half your attention on the phone. When the first episode opens with an attempt at human sacrifice to satiate blind superstition, you know the director isn't here to play. As the series progresses, everything seems as dark and twisted as the dead bodies Brinda comes across. Shakthi Kanth Karthick's music deserves a special mention for the haunting opening score alone.

The ending though, could've definitely been better.

Smart writing Brinda is written by

Surya, with Padmavathi Malladi assisting him on screenplay and Jay Krishna in dialogues. After you complete the 8 episodes, you get the sense that you could've predicted some of what's happened. But when it's all playing out, you're too focused to play Sherlock. Major revelations about characters don't annoy you even if they're unveiled late in the series. The way Brinda goes about solving the case almost feels like she's picking



at a scab she won't let heal. Understandable, given her past. Two sides of the same

coin The series also forces its players and the audience to look inward. When an essential character in the series tells two children they must leave the world a better place than how they inherited it, they interpret it differently. The series doesn't hold back while taking a stance on the state of the world today. Inciting violence in God's name is reprehensible, and so is justifying your dark deeds while opposing it - it's two sides of the same coin. A scene where a case of arson is mistook as something holy just underlines it. The drawbacks

Some plot points in the

as the show progresses series don't work the way Surya intended them to. Brinda's equation with her sister Chutki sticks out like a sore thumb. After a point, Chutki's teenage rebellion begins to feel unnecessary to Yes, the series is about solving a slew of murders, but Surya does a

and it's not surprising when her calm veneer cracks. Her colleague Sarathi (Ravindra Vijay) - the only person who treats her like a human at her workplace - also has office politics and familial pressures of his own to deal with. Inrajith Sukumaran is good at playing the standoffish and mysterious man. Special shoutout to Anand Sami, who'll send a chill down your spine in some scenes and make you oddly empathise with him in others. His back story breaks your heart. In conclusion Brinda is the kind of series that keeps your attention and is relevant without being preachy. No good or evil exists in the tale for the sake of it. It's uncomfortable when Surya finds a way to make you understand the motivations of some characters' horrendous actions, even if you might disagree with them. But the message it delivers is timely, and the way it deals with trauma is with sensitiveness. That makes it worth watching. Brinda is now streaming on SonyLIV.

Kartik Aaryan kept his first film a secret from many for this reason

the contract for Pyaar

Ka Punchnama, it was

a big deal to me to finally

land a film. I felt like I

won a medal because I

struggled for it for long.

It was a film that was

When asked why he

felt so relieved about

that, he stated that he

had lost one or two films

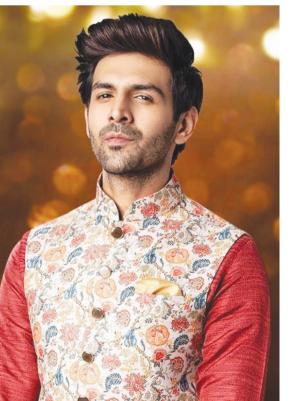
before that despite land-

ing auditions. He said,

"Before that I got films

but it didn't work out. No

finally going on-floors."



Actor Kartik Aaryan recently opened up about the proudest moment of his life. While talking to agency, the actor claimed that he felt like he 'won a medal' when he landed his first film, Pyaar Ka Punchnama, in 2011.

'No one but my family knew'

Kartik said it was a 'big deal' when his first film finally went on-floors, stating, "When I first got one but my family knew I was shooting for the film, because I was still sceptical. I finally told other people when the film's trailer released." Kartik's first salary

On Raj Shamani's podcast in June, Kartik clarified that he wasn't paid 1 crore for his first film. "Pyaar Ka Punchnama wasn't 1 crore. It was 70,000. It's all instinct, and it's your choices that help you shoot up through the ranks," he said, adding, "I didn't make that much even for Sonu Ke Titu Ki Sweety, I started making money only after it."

Stating that he's now making 40 crore, he added, "Those days, I used to worry a lot about TDS. The tax would already be deducted from my paychecks. I made 63,000 for Pyaar Ka Punchnama after taxes. TDS used to really worry me. I remember making 1,500 for my first ad, and 70,000 for the first film. And now, I've climbed up to this number."

Kartik was last seen in Kabir Khan's sports drama Chandu Champion, he will soon be seen in Anees Bazmee's Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3.

the overall story and borderline annoying, especially when Brinda's relationship with her mother (Aamani) is much more layered. The ending also comes out of left field and is hastily wrapped up. Everything else leading up to it is far more interesting. The trope of how a central character stole someone else's identity is also not convincing. The heart of it all

good job of bringing his

characters to life. Brin-

da's dark circles deepen

NATIONAL

President Murmu chairs two-day Governors' conference, PM Modi, Amit Shah present

NEW DELHI, Aug 2 (Agencies): President Droupadi Murmu on Friday inaugurated a two-day conference of Governors at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in Delhi. In her opening remarks at the conference, President Murmu said that the agenda for the conference included carefully chosen issues that are crucial in achieving our national goals.

She said that the deliberations of the conference would be an enriching experience for all participants and help them in their functioning.

The inaugural session of the conference was also addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who referred to the oath of the Governors and urged them to discharge their constitutional responsibilities of making people aware of social welfare schemes and the development that has taken place during the last decade. Addressing the con-

ference, PM Narendra Modi urged the Governors to play the role of an



Bharatiya Nyaya Saneffective bridge between hita, Bharatiya Nagarik the Centre and the State Suraksha Sanhita, and and interact with people and social organisations Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam. in a manner to co-opt those underprivileged.

He said that the post of the Governor was an important institution which could play a crucial role in the welfare of the people of the State within the framework of the Constitution, particularly with reference to tribal areas.

At the conference, Amit Shah urged the Governors to visit villages and districts to instil confidence among people. President Murmu, as

she opened the conference, said that with the implementation of three new laws related to criminal justice, a new era of the justice system had begun in the coun-

try. She stated that the change in our thinking was evident from the names of the laws:

The President said that for the smooth functioning of democracy, it was crucial that the various central agencies work with better coordination across all the states. She advised the Governors to think about how they, as the con-

stitutional heads of the respective states, can promote this coordination. The President said that

quality higher education was an intangible asset as it promoted individual development and social change as well as innovation and economic progress.

She said that the National Education Policy emphasised improving the Accreditation and Assessment system of educational institutions. She also urged the

Governors to contribute to this reform process in their capacity as chancellors of state universities

The President said that the government of India had been giving utmost priority to the development of the poor, the border areas, the deprived sections and areas, and people left behind on the development journey. She pointed out that a large section of our tribal population lives in the Scheduled and Tribal areas, and urged the Governors to suggest ways to achieve inclusive development of the people of these areas. The President said

that 'youth development' and 'youth-led development' would gain more momentum if the energy of the youth could be channelised into positive and constructive work. The 'MY Bharat' cam-

paign provides a wellthought-out system for this purpose.

The Governors should encourage the people associated with this campaign so that more and more youth benefit, she said.

Referring to the 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' campaign, President Murmu noted that it enabled the people of different states and Union Territories to understand each other and connect. She urged the Governors to contribute to further strengthening the spirit of unity.

According to official details, the conference is designed to have breakaway sessions, in which subgroups of Governors will deliberate on each agenda item.

Apart from the Governors, such sessions will also be attended by Union Ministers and officials of the ministries concerned. The observations and

suggestions of the subgroups will be presented before the President, Vice President, Prime Minister and other participants during the concluding session on August 3, 2024.

Bharat Biotech corrects Covaxin patent to include ICMR, NIV after govt objections: Health Minister



NEW DELHI, Aug 2 (Agencies): Union health minister J P Nadda on Friday said that Bharat Biotech initially did not mention ICMR and NIV as coinventors in the patent application for Covaxin and the application was corrected after objections were raised by the government.

Covaxin, which was widely used as a Covid vaccine, was jointly developed by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). National Institute of Virology, and Bharat Biotech International Ltd.

Nadda, speaking during the Question Hour in the Lok Sabha, also said that ICMR has received around Rs 172 crore as royalty for Covaxin from Bharat Biotech.

Responding to Trinamool Congress member Sougata Roy, who had asked whether the government took any punitive action against the company for not mentioning the names of ICMR and NIV in the patent application, the Union Health and Family Welfare Minister gave a detailed reply.

There was a joint Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ICMR, NIV and Bharat Biotech for the development of Covaxin, he said.

NEET-UG 2024: SC maintains 'no breach of sanctity',

Initially, when Bharat Biotech filed the patent application, it bore only its name in the application. As soon as the government and ICMR came to know about it, "we questioned them" as the co-ownership, co-inventor names were not there, Nadda said.

After the objection was raised, the minister said, the application was corrected.

Nadda said that it was informed by Bharat Biotech that the inclusion of ICMR-NIV was inadvertently missed and it has now filed a correction in the patents office.

There were two parts to the development of Covaxin.

The first was to isolate the virus, study the challenges and related issues, and these were done by ICMR and NIV.

Then, the development of the vaccine was done by Bharat Biotech, which spent around Rs 60 crore to that end, Nadda said.

The ICMR spent around Rs 35 crore towards the development of Covaxin, including Rs 20 crore towards phase 3 clinical trial which involved funding of 25 sites for screening and recruiting 25,800 participants.

"Usefulness of Covaxin to the nation and the world has been well acknowledged beyond doubt.

Upon its development by BBIL with technical assistance of ICMR, the government was the recipient of the most doses of the vaccine and it used the same in the national interest."

"This was India's first WHO-approved indigenous Covid-19 vaccine, and was distributed and protected the lives of people during the pandemic," Nadda said.

Two Kanwariyas killed, 10 injured as tractor-trolley overturns in Hapur, Uttar Pradesh

HAPUR, Aug 2 (Agencies): Two kanwariyas were killed and ten others injured after their tractor-trolley overturned in Hapur, western Uttar Pradesh, police reported on Friday.

The kanwariyas, residents of Ghaziabad. were travelling to Brajghat in Hapur to fetch water from the Ganga. The accident occurred late Thursday when the



were referred to Meerut for advanced medical and their families have



A bench of the top tice D Y Chandrachud passed the judgement



tee

Procedure

the flip-flops, it made in relation to the NEET-UG 2024 exam. Such flipflops in a national exam do not serve the interests of the students,"

than open e-rickshaws should be considered," the CJI said.

The aim of the entire process or conducting these exercises was to deter and detect any malpractice in the exam. Pointing out that the expert committee must rectify the deficiencies in the exam system, the apex court said that if any student has any kind of personal grievance not related to the issues resolved in the judgement, they would

concluded that there

was no systemic breach

of the papers. The leak

was only limited to Patna

The counselling had

already started from

The Supreme Court

in its order on July 23,

while refusing to cancel

and Hazaribagh.

July 24.

the NEET-UG exam, observed that there is no data to suggest a "systemic breach" or that the "sanctity" of the examination, following two localised leaks of the question papers.

The CJI, while dictating the order, on July 23, however, said that there is no dispute about the papers being leaked in Hazaribagh and at Patna. Also, following the transfer of the investigation to the CBI, the

driver of the tractor-trolley lost control, causing the vehicle to overturn on a highway in the Babu Garh area.

The tractor-trolley was carrying more than 20 kanwarivas at the time of the crash, according to police.

Those injured in the accident were promptly taken to a hospital in police vehicles. Some of the injured, whose treatment. Babu Garh police station in-charge, Vijay Gupta, stated, "Police reached the spot immediately and admitted the injured to the hospital. Due to the serious condition of some, they were referred to Meerut for adequate treatment." He added. "Unfortunately, two young men, Saurabh and Chirag, died during treatment.

been informed." A probe is underway to ascertain the cause

of the accident. The Hindu holy month of Shravan, which started on July 22, sees devotees perform the ritual of 'Jalabhishek' at Shiva temples every Monday after collecting water from the Ganga. The Shravan Shivratri celebration falls on August 2.

on Friday.

The top court directed to ensure rigorous checks from making question papers to the point of being checked, streamline an SOP to check handling, storage etc, enhance identity checks at various stages, technological innovations to check impersonation and take into account privacy law. "The NTA must avoid

the CJI reading out the verdict said. Widening the scope and ambit of the K Radhakrishnan expert committee constituted by the government to look into the NEET-UG paper leak and other irregularities, the top court said, the committee should encompass seven steps

to have a robust exam process. These are -

of allocating exam centres 4) Processes for enhanced identity checks 5) CCTV monitoring of exam centres 6) Secure logistic providers for ensuring non-

2) Standard Operating

3) Review the process

tempering of papers 7) recommend a robust grievance redressal mechanism

"The viability of using closed vehicles with real time locks rather

probe agency has filed be free to move the its status reports on July respective High Courts. 10. The apex court also reiterated that it had

The apex court pronounced the order after hearing a batch of petitions filed by students, who alleged malpractices and other irregularities in the exam. The hearing took place for four days from petitioners, respondents -Centre, NTA - and other parties in the case.

33 dead after rain hammers Uttarakhand, Himachal, Army joins rescue ops

Heavy rainfall in several areas of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand have claimed 33 lives so far while over 50 are reported missing.

CHANDIGARH, Aug 2 (Agencies): At least 33 people were killed, several injured and over 50 are missing following several rainrelated incidents in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh where rain washed away many houses, bridges and roads.

Himachal Pradesh

The death toll in Himachal Pradesh rose up to seven on Friday following a cloudburst in several areas of Kullu district. Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu is expected to visit the affected areas today. Over 50 people are missing following the incident.

Authorities recovered seven bodies of missing persons - three each in Shimla and Mandi and one in Kullu

With many missing, rescuers raced against time, scrambling through uprooted trees and collapsed buildings to look for survivors.

Teams of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and local administration have been

deployed in the affected areas of the state to retrieve bodies. A total of 35 people have been

rescued at various places. Officials are using drones to locate missing persons

Meanwhile, several state and national highways have been blocked by the landslides. The Manali-Chandigarh National Highway has been damaged at several places due to landslides, an official said.

A breach was also reported in Malana Dam in Kullu, but the situation is under control, the officials said.

The Indian Army has established a control centre at Jhakeri, working alongside the state government's control centre under the District Collector of Shimla.

Around 20 houses have been completely washed away and buried under boulders and debris. The strong water flow in the Nala and its confluence with the Satluj River is hampering rescue work. Rescue operations were halted at 5 pm due to heavy rains and



started at 7 am with the use of earth-moving equipment.

Here is the latest visual from Shat village of Kullu where Malana Dam on the Parvati River burst leaving houses, temples and crops damaged in the area.

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh said that rescue and relief operations are in full swing and he would visit the areas that are most affected .

"Rescue and relief operations are in full swing. I am going to visit the

spot where a number of people are missing. If the sunlight comes out, the rescue operation can be carried out with much more speed. We can recover the bodies only when sunlight comes out. Currently, around 49 people are missing. Our current motive is to rescue the 4 trapped people and recover the bodies trapped under the debris. I request tourists not to go near waterfalls and rivers", Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said.

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP from Mandi, Kangana Ranaut, said that she would meet the affected people in the state.

She said, "It's the very saddening thing for us. The life of people living in the mountains is tough. Every year such tragedies come and damage the lives and property of the people of Himachal Pradesh."

"The Prime Minister and the Union Home Minister have taken reports on all the things and have given assurance that more help through relief funds will be provided. I'll also meet different ministers to seek as much help as I can get. After my work is completed here, I'll visit Himachal to meet people in their tough times," Kangana added.

Uttarakhand

Heavy rain in the state has so far claimed 13 lives and washed away several homes. Three people died in Tehri, two in Dehradun. On the other hand, two Kanwar yatris drowned in another incident in the state.

Hundreds of people were left

stranded as torrential rains triggered landslides and caused rivers to swell in the hilly state.

The Indian Air Force has deployed one Chinook and a Mi-17V5 helicopter to carry out relief and rescue operations in the Kedar valley of Uttarakhand. They will be working in coordination with the state government authorities. More than 4,000 people have been rescued from Kedarnath and 1,500 are yet to be rescued.

Keeping in mind the safety of devotees undertaking the Kedarnath Yatra, authorities have decided to suspend the pilgrimage for the time being due to landslides at many places. The officials said the trek route remains blocked by boulders at Ghoraparav, Lincholi, Badi Lincholi and Bhimbali.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah took stock of the situation in the state. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Friday said that the Home Minister assured all possible assistance for the safety of the people of the state and the devotees.

INTERNATIONAL

Slain Hamas chief Haniyeh to be buried in Qatar as militants ready response

Doha traffic police and Qatar's internal security forces monitored all approaches and police lined highway embankments adjoining the mosque grounds.

DOHA, Aug 2 (Agencies): Mourners arrived at a Qatari mosque on Friday to farewell Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh after his killing in Tehran, an attack blamed on Israel that deepened fears of wider war. Haniyeh, the Palestinian armed group's political chief, played a key role in mediated talks aiming to end nearly 10 months of war between his Islamist movement and Israel in Gaza.

His killing triggered calls for revenge and raised questions about the continued viability of such negotiations.

Haniyeh, who lived in Doha along with other members of the Hamas political office, will be buried in Lusail, north of the Qatari capital, after funeral prayers at Imam Muhammad bin Abdul Wahhab mosque, the Gulf emirate's largest.

His killing is among several incidents since April that have sent regional tensions soaring during the Gaza war which has drawn in Iran-backed militant groups in Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and Yemen.

Turkey and Pakistan announced a day of mourning on Friday to honour Haniyeh, while Hamas called for a "day of furious rage"

Hours before the prayers, hundreds of mourners had already arrived at the Doha mosque.

Most donned scarves bearing the Palestinian flag or traditional keffiyeh patterns for the ceremony held under tight security.

Doha traffic police and Qatar's internal security forces monitored all approaches and police lined highway embankments adjoining the mosque grounds.

High-profile killings Haniveh and a bodyguard were killed in a pre-dawn "hit" on their accommodation in Tehran early on Wednesday, Iran's Revolutionary Guards



killed the Hamas military chief

Israel "delivered crushing

blows to all our enemies", said

Prime Minister Benjamin Netan-

In Tehran on Thursday, thou-

sands of mourners paid their

respects during a public funeral

ceremony for Haniyeh. Iran's

supreme leader Ayatollah Ali

Khamenei led the prayers,

having earlier threatened "harsh

Haniyeh's coffin was then

Iran's First Vice President

Mohammad Reza Aref left

Tehran to attend the ceremonies

in Doha, the Iranian government

Netanyahu has vowed to

destroy Hamas in retaliation for

its October 7 attack on Israel

That attack resulted in the

deaths of 1,197 people, mostly

civilians, according to an AFP

tally based on official Israeli fig-

Militants also seized 251 hos-

tages, 111 of whom are still held

captive in Gaza, including 39 the

Israel's retaliatory campaign

against Hamas has killed at

least 39,480 people in Gaza,

according to the Hamas-run

territory's health ministry, which

does not give details of civilian

military says are dead.

and militant deaths.

Deal 'off the table'

that ignited the war in Gaza.

announced on Thursday.

punishment" for his killing.

transferred to Doha.

Mohammed Deif in Gaza.

yahu.

ures.

said. Haniyeh had travelled to Iran to attend Tuesday's swearing-in of President Masoud Pezeshkian.

Iran and others of the attack, has not directly commented on it.

A source close to Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah movement told AFP that Iranian officials met in Tehran on Wednesday to discuss next steps with representatives of the "Axis of Resistance", Tehran-aligned groups in the Middle East that include Hezbollah and Hamas.

"Two scenarios were discussed: a simultaneous response from Iran and its allies or a staggered response from each party," said the source who had been briefed on the meeting, requesting anonymity to discuss sensitive matters.

During the Gaza war, Hezbollah and Israeli forces have engaged in near-daily exchanges of fire, and did so again on Thursday.

The Hamas leader's assassination came just hours after Israel struck a southern suburb of Beirut, killing Fuad Shukr, the military commander of Hezbollah, which supports Hamas.

Haniyeh's deputy, Saleh al-Aruri, had already been killed in south Beirut early this year in a strike which a US defence official said Israel carried out. In another high-profile killing, Israel's army on Thursday con-

The New York Times, citing Middle Eastern officials, reported that Haniyeh was killed by an explosive device planted several weeks ago at a Tehran guesthouse.

Asked about the report, Israeli military spokesman Daniel Hagari told journalists "there was no other Israeli aerial attack... in all the Middle East" on the night of Shukr's killing in Lebanon.

Hugh Lovatt, an analyst at the European Council on Foreign Relations, said Haniyeh's killing, at the very least "will mean that a ceasefire deal with Israel is now totally off of the table".

Still, the international community called for calm and a focus on securing a ceasefire in Gaza -- which Haniyeh had accused Israel of obstructing.

US President Joe Biden said he was "very concerned" about rising tensions in the region and added that Haniyeh's killing had "not helped" the situation.

The White House said Biden spoke with Netanyahu by telephone on Thursday, promising to defend Israel's security "against all threats from Iran".

"We have the basis for a ceasefire. He should move on it and they should move on it now," Biden told reporters after the call.

In Israel, hundreds of Israelis again marched in Tel Aviv to demand Netanyahu's government reach a deal that would bring home the remaining hostages.

Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah, addressing the funeral of Shukr, said Israel and "those who are behind it must await our inevitable response" to the twin killings.

"You do not know what red lines you crossed," Nasrallah said, addressing Israel.

Israel said Shukr's assassination was a response to deadly rocket fire which killed 12 youths last week in the annexed Golan Heights.

Australian inquiry blames Israeli military failings for fatal drone attack

was the primary factor

behind a "significant

break down in situ-

He found the strikes

were not deliberately

directed against World

But Binskin wrote: "It is

important to all the fami-

lies that an appropriate

apology be provided to

them by the government

Foreign Minister

Penny Wong said she

had told Israel that the

families deserved an

While Binskin's report

outlined steps Israeli

had taken to avoid a

repeat tragedy, "stron-

ger protocols" were

needed to protect aid

workers in Gaza, Wong

ational awareness."

Central Kitchen.

of Israel."

apology.

said.

ers.



MELBOURNE, Aug 2 (Agencies): The Israeli military's attack on an aid convoy in Gaza in April that killed seven people was the result of serious failures of defense procedures, mistaken identification and errors in decisionmaking, according to an Australian investigation that was made public Friday.

Australia initiated the investigation to examine Tel Aviv's response to the widely condemned Israeli Defense Forces' drone strikes on three World Central Kitchen vehicles on April 1. Australian Zomi Frankcom, three of her aid worker colleagues and three British personal security staff died in the attack.

Former Australian Defense Force Chief Mark Binskin was appointed the government's special adviser on the matter and visited Israel in May. He also engaged with World Central Kitchen and Solace Global, the company that provided the convoy's security team.

Binskin blamed the fatal strikes on "serious failures to follow IDF procedures, mistaken identification and errors in decision-making," a statement said.

The armed security guards were likely mistaken for Hamas operatives, Binskin said. This week of the bungled attack.

Military Advocate General Brig. Gen. Yifat Tomer-Yerushalmi, Israel's top miliary lawyer, is considering further potential action against those responsible.

Wong said the Frankcom family felt that disciplinary action to date had been insufficient.

"The Australian government will continue to press for full accountability, including any appropriate criminal charges, and we will continue to advocate the views of the Frankcom family and the Australian government to Israel," Wong said

A family representative issued a statement Friday welcoming Binskin's report as an "important first step."

"We hope it will be followed by further investigations in Israel regarding those responsible for this tragic event, followed by appropriate action," the family statement said.

Binskin said the Israeli "Gaza remains the Defense Forces had deadliest place on earth been "very forthcoming" to be an aid worker. This toward his investigation. was not a one-off inci-But the level of detail dent," Wong told reportthe Israelis provided on specific operational "The U.N. reports that improvements they had more than 250 aid workmade since the convoy blunder made it difficult

ers have been killed since the start of this conflict and in recent weeks, a number of U.N. vehicles have come under attack. This is not acceptable," Wong added. Binskin said his conclusions were "fairly consistent" with an

Israeli military investigation in April that led to two officers being dismissed and three being reprimanded within a for him to assess how effective the changes were. The other World Central Kitchen staff killed were American-Canadian dual national Jacob Flickinger, Palestinian Saifeddin Issam Ayad Abutaha and Polish citizen Damian Sobol. On the British security

team were John Chap-

man, James Kirby and

Jim Henderson.

At least 4 dead in apartment block collapse following gas explosion in Japan asks Denmark to extradite activist Paul Watson, accused of obstructing a whaling research ship

8

firmed that an air strike in July

Israel, accused by Hamas,

Russia's Ural Mountains

MOSCOW, Aug 2 (Agencies): At least four people died after an apartment block in Russia's Ural Mountains collapsed following a gas explosion, the **Russian Emergencies** Ministry said Friday. Fifteen people have been rescued, but dozens more are feared trapped under the rubble.

Photos published by Russian agencies showed a large part of the five-story prefab building, in the industrial city of Nizhny Tagil, leveled to the ground.

According to Russia's Emergencies Ministry, the explosion of a natural gas tank was the likely cause. Residents of neighboring blocks told Russian news out-



lets that they heard a loud blast immediately before the collapse on Thursday.

A rescue operation involving heavy equipment and over 500 emergency workers continued to comb the debris on Friday, according to Russian emergency officials. They said they had so far freed 15 people,

in Greenland since his arrest last month under a Japanese warrant, officials said Friday. Watson, a 73-yearold Canadian American citizen, is a former head of the Sea Shepherd

Conservation Society, whose high seas confrontations with whaling vessels have drawn support from celebrities and even featured in the reality television series "Whale Wars."

TOKYO, Aug 2 (Agen-

cies): Japan has asked

Denmark to extradite

anti-whaling activ-

ist Paul Watson, who

has been in custody

Japan's coast guard sought his arrest over an encounter with a Japanese whaling research ship in 2010 when he was accused of obstructing the crew's official duties by orderwhale hunting. ing the captain of his Japan's government ship to throw exploasked Denmark authorsives at the whaling ities on Wednesday to ship. He was sought in hand over Watson so he

an Interpol red notice, could be tried in Japan, and the perpetrator, a said Masashi Mizobu-New Zealand citizen, chi, assistant press secretary of Japan's foreign was convicted of assault ministry. Greenland is an autonomous territory

> Japan will continue to take appropriate measures, including making necessary efforts to call on cooperation

from related countries and organizations, the official said. Mizobudhi said Denmark has not responded to Japan's request and declined to

comment on the prospects for a handover. Watson was arrested on July 21 when his ship docked in Nuuk, Greenland's capital, according to the local police. Greenland courts have approved his detention in Nuuk until Aug. 15. Japan does not have an extradition treaty with Denmark and it

is unknown if or when

Watson would be

Watson left Sea Shep-

herd in 2022 to set up his

own organization. The

Captain Paul Watson

Foundation said at the

time of his arrest that

the action was politically

handed over.

motivated and called for his release.

Watson was detained in Germany in 2012 on a Costa Rican extradition warrant but skipped bail after learning that he was also sought for extradition by Japan, which has accused him of endangering whalers' lives during his operations in the Antarctic Ocean. He has since lived in countries including France and the United States.

Japan's government argues whale meat is part of Japan's food culture and supports the sustainable use of whales. Japan withdrew from the International Whaling Commission in 2019 and has since resumed commercial whaling within its exclusive economic zone.

Turkey blocks access to Instagram without stating reason or duration

According to Turkish media, there are more than 50 million users signed up to Instagram in Turkey, out of a population of 85 million.

ANKARA, Aug 2 (Agencies): Turkey on Friday blocked access to the Instagram social media network, the national communications authority said without explanation, following censorship accusations against the US company by a highranking Turkish official. The BTK communications authority said in a post on its website that "instagram.com

has been blocked by a decision on the date of 02/08/2024", without adding further details. Many users living in Turkey complained on the X platform that they could not refresh their Instagram feed, an issue verified by AFP journalists.

The Turkish presidency's communications director Fahrettin Altun on Wednesday hit out at Meta-owned Instagram,

accusing the platform of "impeding people from publishing messages of condolence for the martyr Haniyeh".

dren, as well as a cat.

Most of those pulled

from the rubble were

hospitalized, including

a girl who is in serious

condition, local health

Russia's law enforce-

ment launched a

criminal probe into the

incident, suspecting a

health and safety fail-

officials said.

ure.

Ismail Haniyeh, the political chief of the armed Palestinian Islamist group Hamas and a close ally of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, was killed in Tehran on Wednesday in an attack blamed on Israel.

"This is a very clear

Х.



and obvious attempt at media, there are more censure," Altun said on than 50 million users signed up to Instagram According to Turkish in Turkey, out of a popu-

lation of 85 million. The decision sparked mockery on other social media networks such as X.

A meme showing a congested metro station with the tagline: "X when Turks wake up to find that Instagram is blocked", began trending on the platform.

"Instagram is blocked in Turkey, life is over", wrote user "CringeOf-Master" alongside a pic-

ture of a grieving man. Others mockingly asked Instagram users where they could see their doctored images now.

This is not the first time that Turkish authorities have blocked access to social media sites.

Wikipedia was blocked between April 2017 and January 2020 over two articles that alleged a link between the presidency and extremism.

That caused shock in a country where Erdogan's government is often accused of attacking civil freedoms due to the amount of online information that became inaccessible

In April, Facebook owner Meta suspended its Threads social network in Turkey following a decision by authorities there to prevent it from sharing information with Instagram.

and given a suspended prison term allowing him to leave Japan. of Denmark. Environmental activists have criticized Japan's practice of

research whaling as a cover for commercial

LOCAL/CONTD....

GDC R S Pura conducts campus cleanliness drive

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: As a part of series of activities to be carried out to commemorate 77 years of Independence, NSS Volunteers and NCC cadets of Govt. Degree College R. S. Pura in collaboration with the beautification committee and Swachhta Pakhwada conducted campus cleanliness drive on Friday under the guidance and supervision of Prof. (Dr.) Preetpal Kour, Principal of the College.

The drive aimed to develop an attitude of concern and to provide necessary skills to the college students in handling and promoting waste management at individual levels. Near about 40 students participated in this



drive with great zeal and enthusiasm

They cleaned the college campus, parking area and collected plastic garbage from every nook and corner of the college. The day of the drive witnessed an energetic group assembling to extend the scope of the cleanliness drive

The participants collaborated to clean up the vicinity, removing debris, and focusing on waste segregation to ensure effective

disposal While speaking on the occasion, Principal of the college exhorted that cleanliness is most important for physical well-being and a healthy environment.

She emphasized the importance of community-driven initiatives in creating lasting and positive impacts on the environment and society by briefing the students about the various ways by which students can contribute towards a clean and green environment.

She further appreciated the efforts of the students and advised them to continue the drive till visible results are achieved.

The event was coordinated by Dr. Chanchal Angral, NSS PO and cocoordinated by co- convener beautification committee, Dr. Shifali Abrol, Dr Rakesh Choudhary, ANO Boys and Dr. Roopali Jamwal, ANO Girls. The event concluded on

a high note, with participants pledging to continue maintaining the cleanliness of their surroundings and spreading awareness about hygiene practices. The efforts put forth by the volunteers stand as a testament to the dedication towards the better-

ment of society and the nation as a whole.

Tirupati Balaji Temple hosts special Abhishek Ceremony

pleasure and a matter of

pride to have the Tirupati

Balaji Temple established

He highlighted that this

temple allows people in

Jammu to witness and

experience the culture of

South India, describing

Dr. Varun appealed to

people to visit the temple

and pay obeisance,

emphasizing that the

dedication of Lord Ven-

kateswara's temple would

boost spiritual tourism in

On this occasion, RC

Subramanyam, the

the feeling as heavenly.

in Jammu.



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: RC Subramanyam, the Superintendent of the temple, along with Sai Krishna, Temple Inspector, Amit Shukla, and Ramesh Babu, paid obeisance at the Tirupati Balaji Temple in Jammu and participated in the special abhishek of Lord Venkateswara.

This ceremony, which takes place every Friday, was performed with prayers for the welfare of the country.

Dr. Varun expressed his happiness over the Superintendent of the temple, also appealed to the Transport Commissioner to start a bus service for the temple to facilitate easy access for devotees

He emphasized the need to start the Bharat Darshan bus service to promote awareness of the temple among tourists

Other dignitaries present on the occasion included Sai Krishna, Temple Inspector, RC Subramanyam, Superintendent, Ramesh Babu, Ved Pandit Amit Shukla, Neeraj Shukla, Archak Pandit Ravi Teja Narsimbha, Parichark Pandit Surya Prakash, Anurag Patu Pandit Gautam Pandey, Chandan Prasad Distributor Pandit Keshwa and Ramgopal Sharma

The presence of these dignitaries underscored the significance of the event and the temple's role in fostering spiritual and cultural connections in the region.

JK Kissan Council expresses gratitude to LG Manoj Sinha

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: The JK Kissan Council held a special meeting in Jammu to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Manoj Sinha, the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Atal Dulloo, IAS (Chief Secretary, JKUT), and Shelender Kumar, (Principal Secretary, APD&FW) for granting a one-year extension to Arvinder Singh Reen, the Director of Agriculture, Jammu, JKUT.

In a resolution passed during the meeting, the JK Kissan Council expressed its high appreciation for the current state of agriculture and allied sectors under the leadership of Arvinder Singh Reen.

The council emphasized that his leadership should continue through the current kharif season and beyond In his short tenure as Director of Agriculture, Jammu Reen has significantly accelerated agricultural growth and the implementation of HADP and other schemes. His previous roles as Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO) Jammu and Director (Inputs) were also highly commended by the farming community of the Jammu region. His respectful and effective treatment of the farming community, combined with his extensive experience and skills, are expected to greatly benefit the entire Jammu division in the future.

The governing council of the JK Kissan Council also appreciated the current saturation drive conducted by the agriculture department and expressed its gratitude to the farming community.

This government initiative aims to empower Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) with facilities such as pesticides, fertilizers, seeds, and other agricultural inputs delivered directly to their doorsteps. Additionally, it will provide a level playing field for emerging agricultural entrepreneurs

Members present at the meeting included Tajinder Singh Wazir (President), Sunil Choudhary (President, BKS), Sushma Devi (Director, KJMPCL), Swati Basotra (Sakti Maa, Millets Cooperative), Baldev Raj (Vijaypur FPO), Vikram Singh, Sidharth Verma, Mohd. Farooq, Mohd. Irfan, Menakshi Devi and others

FROM PAGE 1

BSF Special DG reviews security situation along IB in Jammu

All Party protests tomorrow in demand of statehood, restoration of democratic rights

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: All party parties will hold a dharna in Jammu on 3rd August demanding full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and restoration of democratic rights, along with rolling back the recent amendments made in the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act.

The final decision regarding this dharna was taken in the meeting held in Jammu NC office on Friday.

On this occasion Manish Sahni (State Head Shiv Sena (UBT) convener APUM), Ratan Lal Gupta (NC State President), Narendra Gupta (Congress), Vijay Lochan (NC), Rakesh Singh (NC), Sunny Kant Chimb (HRC)., Nirmal Mahana (AAP), Narendra Singh (S Akali Dal), Comrade Sukhdev Singh (DBYC), Subhash Mehta (CPL), Narendra Khajuria, Chan-



dra Mohan (Jammu District President) from NC, Pradeep Bali, Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, Rakesh Singh. Raka, Jatinder Singh Lucky, Vikram Puri, Gurnam Singh and Sanjeev Kohli were present. While briefing the media Sahni said that on August 3, peaceful dharna will be held at Maharaja Hari Singh statue site under the banner of All Party United Front. He said that the amendments made in

people have been almost hollowed out, voices will be raised for rolling it back with. immediate effect, returning the status of full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, restoration of the rights of the local people.

Sahni said that except BJP, leaders and workers of almost all opposition parties, Congress, NC, PDP, Shiv Sena (UBT), AAP etc. including social organizations will be present in this demonstration. All leaders appealed to the people to enthusiastically participate in the demonstration for the restoration of their rights.

JK Para Cricketer Amir Hussain motivates students in Punjab

the Jammu and Kash-

mir Reorganization Act,

under which the jurisdic-

tion of the Lieutenant

Governor of Jammu and

Kashmir was increased.

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: Para Cricketer & Brand Ambassador, Aryans Group of Colleges Amir Hussain Lone visited Rajpura & Patiala Schools. Jasbir Kaur, Principal, NTC, Rajpura; Poonam Kumari, Principal, Govt, Sen, Sec, School, Mohinderganj; Dr. Varinderjeet, Govt. Sen, Sec School, Civil Lines, Patiala; Vijay Kapoor, Govt, Sen Sec multipurpose were present. Around 2000 students of Rajpura, Patiala region were addressed.

Amir thanked Dr. Anshu Kataria, Chairman, Aryans Group of Colleges, and while addressing faculty and students, said that Believe in yourself, your abilities, and your dreams. Surround yourself with positive influences and keep moving

led PDP-Congress government.



forward. you'll overcome any obstacle and achieve greatness

Aryan Kataria, CEO, Aryans Group said that Amir is inspiring millions not only in India but abroad too. Despite not having arms, he has not let his passion for cricket. For that Sachin Tendulkar & Adani Group has also honored him. For all his hard work and Aryans Group decided and announced him Brand Ambassador of Aryans. It is to be mentioned

Aryans Group is running 8 different colleges including Engineering, Law, Management, Agriculture, Nursing, Pharmacy, Education, Physiotherapy etc. The group is spread over 20-acre lush green land on Chandigarh-Patiala Highway, near Chandigarh and catering over 4000 students from different parts of the country. The organization is committed to provide high quality education to

that established in 2007

its students

CS for expediting progress on Majid won the 2014 Assembly election again from the Bandipora Assembly seq-Parvatmala projects

New record of over 7.28 Cr Income-Tax returns filed: Tax

the region.

Such concerted efforts led to fruitful results with increased number of filings

Outdoor campaigns were also carried out.

Deptt

Over 43.82 per cent of these ITRs have been filed using the online ITR utility available on the e-filing portal and the remaining have been filed using offline ITR utilities, it said.

During the peak filing period, the e-filing portal successfully handled huge traffic, providing a seamless experience to taxpayers for filing of ITRs. On July 31, 2024 alone, successful logins stood at 3.2 crore.

The process of e-verification is important to commence the processing of ITRs and to issue refunds, if any, it said.

It is encouraging to note that over 6.21 crore ITRs have been e-verified, out of which more than 5.81 crore are through Aadhaarbased OTP (93.56 per cent).

Of the e-verified ITRs, more than 2.69 crore ITRs for the A.Y. 2024-2025 have been processed (43.34 per cent) till July 31, 2024.

Over 91.94 lakh challans have been received through TIN 2.0 payment system in the month of July, 2024 (for AY 2024-25), while total number of challans filed through TIN 2.0 since April 1, 2024 stands at 1.64 crore (for AY 2024-25).

The e-filing helpdesk team has handled approximately 10.64 lakh queries from taxpayers during the year up to July 31, supporting the taxpayers proactively during the peak filing period.

While expressing its gratitude to tax professionals and taxpayers for their support in compliances in filing of ITRs and forms, the statement said, taxpayers are also requested to verify their unverified ITRs if any, within 30 days of filing the ITR.

The department also urged taxpayers, who for any reason, missed filing their ITR within the due date, to complete their filing expeditiously.

The statement said a lot of emphasis was provided to educate taxpayers about old and new tax regimes

FAQs and educational videos on the same were designed and uploaded on the e-filing portal, it said.

Focussed outreach campaigns were carried out on social media to encourage taxpayers to file their ITRs early.

Along with this, it said, unique creative campaigns were also carried out on different platforms. Informational videos in 12 vernacular languages, apart from English and Hindi, were displayed on digital platforms.

ED conducts first raid in Leh in fake cryptocurrency business

case

They, however, did not get any returns or currency back, and these funds were laundered by the business' promoters to purchase land assets in Jammu.

The money laundering case stems from a March 2020 FIR registered in Leh and some other complaints filed in the Union Territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir (J-K) against Mir and Ajay Kumar Choudhary.

Police in Leh in their FIR stated that an inquiry was conducted by a committee formed by the local district magistrate against Mir and his agents who were running the "fake" cryptocurrency business (Emollient Coin Limited) from a office located at the Anjuman Moin-UI-complex, opposite SNM Hospital, in Leh.

The committee sealed this office during inquiry on charges of "cheating many innocent individuals by assuring them to double their investment", according to the FIR.

The accused lured people of the UT of Ladakh and some other places to purchase "Emollient Coin" using cash or transferring money into bank accounts, according to Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials.

The depositors were also duped in the name of "Bitcoins" with the assurance of returns up to 40 per cent with a lock-in period of 10 months, the probe agency said.

Investors were dished out a commission of up to seven per cent of the investment made by the people on their reference in the business, thereby forming a multi-level marketing chain, the ED found.

A total of 2,508 people invested Rs 7,34,36,267 in the investment plan offered by Mir and the company (Emollient) floated by him that was incorporated in September 2017 and had its registered office in London. A man, Henry Maxwell, living in the UK capital. was its director

The company had two promoters in India - Naresh Gullia and Channi Singh. The company was "deliberately" dissolved in March 2019, and Mir along with Choudhary launched a real estate business and acquired lands in Jammu from the funds generated by the fake cryptocurrency trade, according to the ED.

border infiltration along the International Border (IB) in the Jammu frontier.

Khurania was received by Border Security Force (BSF) Inspector General D K Boora and other senior officers of the Jammu frontier.

Boora provided a detailed presentation to Khurania, covering all critical aspects of border security and domination along the IB in Jammu

Khurania chaired a security review meeting attended by the IG BSF Jammu, IG BSF Kashmir, and senior officers of the Jammu frontier, during which the situation was thoroughly reviewed.

The meeting focused on the security situation in the Jammu region.

During his visit, Khurania interacted with the jawans and praised them for their dedication and professionalism in performing their duties.

Police arrests 651 drug peddlers in Baramulla

86.5 crores since January 2023. Police also seized the illegal properties of 20 notorious drug peddlers worth Rs 10 crore, comprising residential houses, shopping complexes, vehicles, and land plots.

Police said that heroin abuse cases have seen a sharp dip in Baramulla district.

Police have urged community members to come forward with any information regarding drug peddling in their neighbourhood.

"Persons found indulging in drug peddling will be dealt with as per law," police said.

J&K leader Usman Majid quits Apni Party over growing proximity with **BJP**

Asked about his political future, Majid said he will take a decision after consulting his workers.

"The decision will be taken in due course of time, keeping the interests of Bandipora paramount." he said.

Majid, a two-time MLA from Bandipora, had resigned from the Congress in 2020 to join the Appi Party.

He first became MLA in 2002 contesting as an Independent candidate.

Later he was inducted as Minister of State for Finance in the Mufti Muhammad Sayeedment by defeating PDP's Nizamuddin

Over 13 lakh Indian students pursuing higher studies Abroad in 2024: Govt

3,37,630 students in the US, 8580 in China, eight in Greece, 900 in Israel, 14 in Pakistan and 2510 in Ukraine

"Indian Missions/Posts abroad constantly engage with Indian students studying overseas and encourage them to either register with them or on the Global Rishta Portal. They organise 'Welcome Ceremonies' for Indian students who travel abroad for the first time and brief them on security issues in the host countries

"They also advise them to register with the Indian Missions/Posts and to regularly stay connected. Indian Missions/Posts use the aforesaid method to collect data of Indian students abroad through voluntary registrations.

Indian Missions/Posts abroad also coordinate with the concerned authorities in the host Governments to secure data on the number of Indian students studying overseas," the minister said in his response.

In response to another query, Singh said the government of India has been continuously making efforts to "increase" the number of countries that may provide visa free entry travel, visa-on-arrival facilities to Indians for ease of travelling around the world.

Ashok Kumar Sharma posted as SSP Security J&K

"In pursuance of the approval of Competent Authority to the transfer of Shri Altaf Ahmad Shah, IPS (AGMUT: 2013), SSP Security, J&K to the Union Territory of Ladakh, the officer is hereby relieved from the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, to enable him to join in the Union Territory of Ladakh," reads an order issued by Home Department, J&K Government, a copy of which lies with Greater Kashmir.

"Consequent to the above, Shri Ashok Kumar Sharma, Commandant IRP-24th Bn, is transferred and posted as Senior Superintendent of Police, Security, J&K," the order reads.

Jammu; Secretary, R&B; Secretary, Revenue; Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar/Reasi; Commissioner, SMC; VC, LCMA; MD, JKCCC and other concerned officers.

Outstation officers participated in the meeting through video conferencing.

During this meeting the Chief Secretary took note of the progress made on carrying out prefeasibility reports on part of the National Highway Logistics Management Limited (NHLML)regarding the construction of ropeway projects at different tourist destinations of J&K.

Dulloo impresses upon the PSU to pace-up this process so that a clarity is obtained for making headway on technically feasible projects. He also assessed the progress made on seeking NOCs, forest clearances and the status of utility shifting coming in way of any of the ongoing projects.

He asked for depicting enhanced coordination between the central body and the concerned departments for reaching better understanding between them to resolve the impending issues.

He called for accelerating the process of establishing Multi Model Logistics Park in Samba and taking up the development of Public Transport Terminal Infrastructure (PTTI) at Katra here.

The meeting was briefed on the core issues and their status at present. It was added that out of 18 ropeway projects prefeasibility report of 3 had been carried out and consultation for 3 more is in progress.

It was further revealed that these ropeway projects includes Baltal-Amarnath Cave, Makhdoom Sahib-Hariparbat, Bhaderwah-Seojdhar, Nasri Tunnel-Sanasar, Shankaracharaya, Sonamarg-Thajiwas besides others of great religious or tourism importance.

Delhi Police cracks down on Chinese manjha; registers 78 FIRs, arrests 79

The Delhi Police has registered 78 FIRs in this matter. "There are strict directions from senior police officers to register FIR and arrest those who are involved in selling Chinese manjha (glass-coated synthetic strings used for flying kites). Such kite strings are completely banned and teams are working round the clock to arrest those who are involved in their distribution and stocking," a senior police officer said.

LOCAL

Bimla Luthra highlights women's crucial role in upcoming Assembly Polls

Top News Report

10

UDHAMPUR, Aug 2: A crucial meeting of the Women Wing of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) District Udhampur Urban under the Chairperson of Mrs Sunita Mehra was held in Udhampur. Mrs Bimla Luthra, State Vice President of JKNC and former MLA, was the Chief Guest.

The meeting attended by a large number of women party workers and leaders, focused on the significant role women are expected to play in the upcoming Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. Sunita Mehra, District President Udhampur of JKNC Women Wing, commenced the meeting by highlighting the difficulties faced by women under the current government, emphasizing the dire lack of healthcare facilities in rural and remote areas, particularly the non-availability of women doctors. She expressed concerns over the absence of basic amenities and the lack of opportunities for women



entrepreneurs. She pointed out that regions such as Dudu, Basantgarh, Pancheri, and other remote areas of Udhampur district are severely deprived of development. Addressing the party workers, Bimla Luthra expressed deep anguish over the government's neglect of these far-flung areas on the development front. She criticized the current administration for failing to address these critical issues and for its overall neglect of the developmental needs of the region. She noted the persistent shortage of ration and the poor condition of roads, especially the crucial stretch from Ram Nagar to Dudu Basantgarh. Reflecting on the National Conference's past governance, the senior NC leader highlighted the key initiatives and significant progress made during their regime in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir. She recalled the equitable development policies and the numerous welfare schemes that had been implemented to uplift the socio-economic status of the people, particularly women.

The former MLA urged the women of Jammu and Kashmir to actively participate in the upcoming Assembly elections, stressing their vital role in shaping the future of the region. She asserted that only the National Conference has the vision and capability to provide equitable development across Jammu and

Kashmir, "Women have always been the backbone of our society, and their active involvement in the electoral process is crucial for bringing about the much-needed change. The National Conference is committed to ensuring that women's voices are heard and their issues addressed," she stated.

Sunil Verma District President Udhampur Urban called upon the party workers to come forward and strengthen the hands of Party President Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Vice President Omar Abdullah. Emphasizing unity and collective effort, He encouraged the workers to rally behind the party's leadership to ensure a robust and prosperous future for

Jammu and Kashmir. Pinky Khalsa District President Jammu Urban women wing and Joginder Kour District Vice President Jammu Urban women wing said that the National Conference has committed to uplift the marginalized sections of society. They emphasized the party's dedication to ensuring inclusive development and social justice for all. "JKNC has always been at the forefront of advocating for the rights of the underprivileged and marginalized communities. Our policies and programs are designed to address the disparities and bring about equitable growth," they stated. The meeting concluded with a renewed resolve

among the women participants to work tirelessly towards the success of the National Conference in the upcoming elections. Among those who were present include:-Akash

verma District President Udhampur Urban YNC, Radha Rani, Samtri Devi, Capt Rattan Singh, Capt Nand Lal, Ch. Abdul Rashid and others,

Central Govt betrays DPs/Refugees by not granting property rights on Custodian Land in J&K: Manjit

Top News Report

VIJAYPUR, Aug 2: Accusing the Govt of misleading the Displaced Persons (DPs)/Refugees in Jammu and Kashmir, the Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, Manjit Singh has strongly opposed the Central Govt for not granting proprietary rights to the DPs/ Refugees on the Custodian land.

Addressing a meeting of the April Party at Vijaypur, the Party's Provincial President, and Former Minister expressed his shock over the granting of ownership rights to the DPs/Refugees of Chhamb (1965-1971) in Jammu

following their displacement from their ancestral land to the other places where they were settled by then Govts in J&K," he reminded, addressing the meeting.

He said that "For

people are cultivating and have constructed their houses/commercial establishments on the above said land," he said, expressing dismay over the inhuman attitude of the Govt towards the poor financial condition of the DPs/Refugees.

He also demanded to remove the land deficiency of the DPs/Refugees.

"The DPs/Refugees have serious concern because their land that was allotted to them was acquired for construction of Govt projects, and canal work but they were not compensated with alternative land to remove the deficiency of the land.

/ State Land since 1947. Expressing concern, he said that the Govt unfortunately closed the package that was sanctioned by then Central Govt after paying Rs 5.5 lakhs to the DPs/Refugees.

> "The Central Govt had sanctioned Rs 25 lakhs for the DPs/Refugees. However, only Rs 5.5 lakhs was released, and then the package was closed. Thus, denying them their right to get the complete package," he added.

He said that the assurances were made that their package amount would be released. However, that remained an unfulfilled promise.

"Even as the DPs/Re

NSDC in partnership with Britannia Launches **Women Entrepreneurship Program**



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: In a pivotal move towards empowering women entrepreneurs and spurring economic growth, the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is excited to unveil the Women Entrepreneurship Program.

This initiative, aims to tackle the challenges faced by women in entrepreneurship by offering crucial skills, knowledge, and networking opportunities

The program has been launched with the introduction of complimentary self-learning basic entrepreneurship courses available in multiple languages on the Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH).

Upon completion of these courses, participants will receive a cobranded certificate from NSDC, Britannia Industries and National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIES-BUD), acknowledging their entrepreneurial skills and competencies.

This initiative aims to empower approximately 25 lakh women across India, providing them with the skills, knowledge, and resources needed to start and grow successful businesses

The initiative will culminate in a grand finale where the top 50 contestants will present their business ideas to a distinguished jury. To further encourage innovation and excellence, Britannia Industries will award financial grants of 10 lakh rupees each to 10 of the

most successful contestants At the launch of this program, Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, GOI said, "It is our privilege that Britannia has partnered with us, focusing on women entrepreneurship. We have achieved significant progress in entrepreneurship through NIESBUD and special programs with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Ministry of Rural Development and other ministries. We are also collaborating

rates and government departments, to provide skill training to women's self-help groups, whether individually or collectively and to help organize them into various business entities. In the skilling segment, under Jan Shikshan Sansthan, 82% of our trainees are women. In the PMKVY short-term training program, close to 45% of the participants are women.

closely with other corpo-

Echoing this sentiment, Ved Mani Tiwari, COO (Officiating CEO), NSDC & MD, NSDC International stated, "Today, this program is about women-led entrepreneurship and aligns with the Prime Minister's vision for women development. One of the most important component of this is that private and public sector organisation are going together telling women to have entrepreneurial ambitions. From Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao to Lakhpati Didi, India has travelled a lot of distance when it comes to women development.'

DSEJ in collaboration with Bharti Airtel Foundation supported over 34,000 teachers

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: In a notable effort to strengthen the quality of education and teaching methods in Jammu schools, Directorate of School Education, Jammu and the Bharti Airtel Foundation collaborated to introduce 'Professional Development Initiative for Teachers' on May 14, 2024. Through this initiative, the Foundation supported in enhancing teachers' skills in Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN), Pedagogical Techniques, and Classroom Management Techniques.

This initiative through

Felicitation Ceremony ting Educa nal Exce dation said, "For the last

Education Officer and District Nodal Officers were recognized for their efforts towards successfully implementing good practices curated for the initiative in the schools of Jammu division On this occasion, Ashok Kumar Sharma - Direc-

25 years, the Bharti Airtel Foundation has committed itself to enhancing education in rural India. We extend our gratitude to Directorate of School Education, Jammu, and all collaborators in this meaningful alliance for

title of the land remains unchanged although the

Region over the state land while denying their longstanding demand of proprietary rights on the Custodian Land.

"These families of DPs/ Refugees had to migrate in difficult times following hostility between India-Pakistan in the border areas where they owned private property/agricultural land. However,

decades, these DPs/Refugees demanded ownership rights to the allottees on the Custodian Land so that they can get the compensation as well as other facilities from the Govt. But their genuine demand was not considered by the Govt, and a decision was taken to give them ownership rights on

the state land which is an

decades," he asserted, extending support to their demands.

injustice and an attempt to

rub salt on the wounds of

"Three to four genera-

tions of DPs / Refugees

took care and nourished

the Custodian Land for

the DPs/Refugees.

He further stated that these DPs/Refugees are not given compensation whenever their land (Custodian Land) comes under any project like highway or other developmental projects.

"The compensation is paid to the Custodian Land because the

he added

He said that the Govt has misled the people of Jammu and Kashmir because there was already an order to give property rights to the DPs/ Refugees on State Land. He however demanded that the Govt should consider granting property rights to the locals resid-

ugees have raised their voice and supported the BJP since 2014 at Parliamentary elections yet the national party has denied fulfilling the pending demands of the DPs/ Refugees," he added.

He demanded that the pending package payment should be released in favour of the DPs/Refuing on the Custodian Land gees.

TheTeacherApp, supported teachers with comprehensive teaching materials and technology-integrated strategies for effective classroom engagement. Over 34,000+ teachers from 7,000+ schools have engaged in workshops, webinars, quizzes, selfpaced courses and assessments to enhance their teaching skills. The teachers' active participation and notable time spent on the app reflects the success of continuous professional development through the initiative. Poonch, Kishtwar and Udhampur districts of Jammu Division were awarded the best districts for their outstanding performance in the professional development program for teachers. Additionally, Chief

tor, Directorate of School Education, Jammu, appreciated the joint initiative and efforts made by the teachers and officials from the Education Department and Bharti Airtel Foundation to make it a success. Sh. Ashok Sharma said that he would want to see this partnership growing in future towards building capacity of teachers in Jammu. Feedback from teachers on the initiative has been overwhelmingly positive, with 88% showing eagerness to attend the continuous professional development of teachers. Our goal is to collaborate, sharing knowledge and best practices, to empower teachers to play an active role in their own learning journey as well as support them in uplifting their schools through innovative teaching practices.' Ashok Kumar Sharma - Director, Subah Mehta - Joint Director, Maneesha - Personnel Officer and J.R. Padha - Chief Education Officer from Directorate of School Education, Jammu along with Mamta Saikia, CEO - Bharti Airtel Foundation, Binu Nair - Chief Program Operations, Anil Bhat - Regional Head and Amit Taneja -Technology Lead, The-TeacherApp from the Foundation graced the ceremony.

BLSKS presents cultural performances for Amarnath Pilgrims at Yatri Niwas Jammu

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: To promote the rich traditional culture of Jammu and Kashmir, Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS) presented two mega cultural performances for Amarnath pilgrims at Yatri Niwas, Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu. The 447th Friday Series Musical Play "Neel Kanth Gangadhar" was held in close coordination with the Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Department of Tourism Jammu & Kashmir, J&K Government, and Sangam Tru Art Production.

The program was inaugurated by Chief Guest Sh. Durga Parkash, Stage Manager, Central Bureau of Communication, and Sunil Kumar Sharma, Verinder Kapida, Sh. Neeraj Verma, Sunita Atri, and Ram Lal, Senior Staff Members of CBC and staff of Yatri Bhawan.



The event was guided by Gulam Abbass. Director/HoO, Central Bureau of Communication. The program was powered by the Central Bureau of Communication and the Department of Tourism, Jammu & Kashmir.

The performances showcased the traditional folk culture of Jammu province, with special awareness items on the themes "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao," "Swachh Bharat," "Meri Matti Mera Desh," and "G-20." Artists sang various songs including "Shiv Stuti," "Shiv Nath Teri Mahima teen log gaye," "Kali Mata Bawe Basdi," "Japu Tero Naam Japu Tero Naam,"

"Jai Jai Shiv Shanker," "Sukh Mai na koi mere Ram," "Mera Bhola Na Mane," and "Shaher Shaher aur Gaon-Gaon main sab nainchhapatuthaihai," and "Swachh Bharat Ho Swasth Bharat.

More than 2000 pilgrims from various parts of the country attended the event and highly appreciated it. The Chief Guest remarked that the story of the Ganga Avatran included in the play was very powerful and meaningful, emphasizing the importance of living traditions in the Indian social system in this region. Additionally, another program was presented at

Durga Bhawan, Janipur Jammu, for Amarnath pilgrims, with a subsequent performance scheduled for the next day at Yatri Niwas Jammu.

The songs were written by Dr. M.L. Dogra, Chairman of BLSKS, and composed by Raju Bajgal, Music Instructor. The program was also recorded and uploaded online on social media for the benefit of the public. Usha Raina, Troupe Leader of BLSKS, welcomed the Amarnath Yatris to Jammu and highlighted the story of the Ganga Avatran included in the play. She recounted the legend behind the Neelkanth

Mahadev Temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva, and its significance in Hindu mythology.

M.C. Kotwal, General Secretary of BLSKS, explained the aims and objectives of the program in his keynote address, highlighting the various publicity and entertainment aspects of the song and drama division proarams

The performers included Usha Raina, Raju Bajgal, Rajni Gupta, M.C. Kotwal, Deepak Kumar, Zulekha Bano, Paramjeet, Chahat Chadha, Rahul Kumar, Afroz Alam, and casual departmental artists of CBC Kamla Devi, Sunil Verma, Sanjay Mehra, Bunty Kumar, and Rajeev Salotra, who presented memorable items on the occasion.

The event concluded with Ram Lal, Senior Artist of the Department, presenting a vote of thanks for the successful conduction of the programs.

DGP J&K sanctions meritorious scholarship amounting over Rs 11.76 lakh

more learning sessions

on TheTeacherApp and

93% rated the webinars

Appreciating Director-

ate of School Education

Jammu, and all the part

ners in this valuable col-

laboration, Mamta Saikia,

CEO – Bharti Airtel Foun-

on the app as excellent.

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Aug 2: Recognizing the outstanding academic achievements of wards of police personnel who have excelled in the 10th and 12th annual examinations during the 2023-2024 academic session, the Director General of Police (DGP), J&K R.R. Swain has sanctioned meritorious scholarship of over Rs 11.76 lakh in favour of 207 wards of serving police personnel under two different orders. The amount has been sanctioned out of J&K Police welfare fund.

The DGP has sanctioned over Rs 5.78 lakh for 93 meritorious wards of serving Police personnel who have secured 80% and above marks in the Annual Examination of Class 12th during the academic session 2023-24

Rs 7200 each have been sanctioned in favour of thirty four meritorious wards who secured 90% and above marks and Rs 6000 each have been sanctioned in favour of fifty nine meritorious wards who have secured 80% and above marks. The top three position holders in the list are Iqra Nissar daughter of Nissar Ahmad, Palak Gupta daughter of Narinder Gupta and Mohsin Mushtaq son of Mushtaq Ahmad

The DGP has also sanctioned meritorious scholarship of rupees 5.78 lakh in favour of 144 wards of serving Police personnel who have secured 80% and above marks in the Annual Examination of class 10th during the academic session 2023-24. Rs 6000 each has been sanctioned in favour of sixty one meritorious wards who have secured 90% and above marks and Rs 4000 each have been sanctioned in favour of eighty three meritorious wards who have secured 80% and above marks in the annual examination of class 10th.

The top three position holders in the list are Taqdees Zehra daughter of Imtiyaz Hussain Mir, Hayah Shah daughter of Mubashir Ahmad and Saika Nazir daughter of Nazir Ahmad.

SPORTS

Harbhajan Singh's sarcastic jibe at Pak journo over security issues in country

Harbhajan Singh slammed a Pakistani journalist who tried to mock and target him for raising concerns over security issues in Pakistan. The security concerns have been regarding India's travel to Pakistan for the Champions Trophy 2025.

NEW DELHI, Aug 2 (Agencies): Former India cricketer Harbhajan Singh slammed a Pakistani journalist who tried to target him for his stance over India's participation in the Champion Trophy 2025. Harbhajan took a sarcastic jibe at the Pakistani journalist who tried to mock him. Harbhajan had supported BCCI's stance of not wanting to send the Indian team to Pakistan for the upcoming Champions Trophy 2025. The journalist posted a scorecard of Harbhajan getting hit for four sixes by Shahid Afridi during India's tour to Pakistan in 2006. The Pakistani journalist tried to mock the former India player by saying that these are the kind of security issues he has been pointing out. Harbhajan retweeted the post and shared a screenshot from a newspa-



per from 2009 when the Sri Lankan team bus was attacked by Pakistani terrorists. He used this reference to point out the security concerns within the country and suggested that this was the reason as to why the Indian team should not travel to Pakistan.

"No not for this . Cricket Mai

Jeet har lagi rehti hai. I will tell u the real problem is this . Check the photo . Now get the Fâ€æ. out of here . F ka Matlab samaj aa gya hoga ya samjau? F means ur name . Plz don't think what u r thinking th meaning of F. You know what I mean ??Peace," Harbhajan wrote in the caption on X.

Harbhaian slams Pakistani journalist

Will India travel to Pakistan? Pakistan bagged the hosting rights for the Champions Trophy 2025. The country will host a mega event after more than two decades. After the terror attack on Sri Lanka's team bus, Pakistan was banned from hosting any international matches for a decade. Other countries have started touring Pakistan now, but amid the cross-border tensions between India and Pakistan, there is no green signal to their travel to the neighbouring country.

During last year's Asia Cup, as well when Pakistan were hosts, India played all their games in Sri Lanka. The BCCI is keen on getting neutral venues like Sri Lanka or the UAE for the Champions Trophy matches in 2025.

Rahul Dravid amongst Eoin Morgan's candidates to take over England coach job

NEW DELHI, Aug 2 (Agencies): Eoin Morgan has included Rahul Dravid as one of the candidates he would pick to become the new England white-ball coach to replace Matthew Mott. Mott had stepped down from the job following England's T20 World Cup campaign as they failed to defend their second crown after a dismal performance in the ODI World Cup last year. Dravid would also step down from the India role, but after winning the T20 World Cup 2024.

Dravid is currently not in any role with a team and Morgan was quick to add him to the list of potential candidates. Speaking to Sky Sports, Morgan said that Rob Key has the job to make the England white-ball coach role as attractive as possible. The former England captain said that the ECB can then approach the highly-regarded coaches for the job.

"You got to remember, it's the England cricket team, it's one of the most resourced cricket teams in the world, so it is up to Rob [Key] to make that role as attractive as possible. So you then go to the best coaches or highly regarded coaches in the world and say 'Well, this is a job that you want to do as opposed to having to second guess it," Morgan told Sky Sports.

Morgan said that he would approach Dravid, Ricky Ponting, Stephen Fleming and Brendon McCullum at the moment. McCullum, who is currently taking care of England red-ball side, was hailed as one of the best coaches in the world by Morgan.

"In my eyes, at the moment, you would go to Rahul Dravid, Ricky Ponting, Stephen Fleming, and Brendon McCullum. I say McCullum because I believe he is one of the best coaches in the world," he added.

What Dravid said after World Cup win Dravid had said that he would be able to move on from the win and joked he would be unemployed after leaving the job. The former India coach said he is hoping to move on after the win.

"I will be able to move on quickly from this win, next week I will be unemployed (laughs). I don't want to think too far ahead, but yes, I hope, I will be able to move on. I think that's what life is all about." said Dravid.

Currently, Dravid hasn't made any commitments about his future.

Let's go Carlos for the medal: Rafael Nadal cheers for Alcaraz for Olympic win

PARIS, Aug 2 (Agencies): Tennis legend Rafael Nadal shared a special message for the star player, Carlos Alcaraz, after he stormed into the semifinal of the men's singles at the Paris Olympics 2024. The dream team from Spain had paired together for the men's doubles event in the Paris Games. However, 'Nadalcaraz' suffered an early exit as they fell just one win short of entering the medals round. Nadal took to his social media and expressed his gratitude for having played with Alcaraz and called it an 'unforgettable experience'. He also rooted for Alcaraz to win a medal for Spain in the single event.



Alcaraz, for these days that have been fantastic in many ways. Unforgettable experience with you and the entire team. And, now, the most important thing: Let's go, Carlos, for the medal. You are

ing stages, Alcaraz got the all-important break in game six to edge in front before taking the first set.

youngest man to reach

the singles semifinals at

a Summer Games since

Novak Djokovic in 2008.

Alcaraz extended his winning streak at the Paris Clay to 11 matches and became the

Boxer Imane Khelif at centre of gender row at Olympics. What is the truth?

PARIS, Aug 2 (Agencies): "I have never been hit so hard in my life," Italian boxer Angela Carini, in tears, said after withdrawing from her 66 kg category bout with Algeria's Imane Khelif. It took just 46 seconds and a single punch for the Paris Olympics to be embroiled in its biggest controversy so far.

During those 46 seconds, Carini was hit twice, suffering a suspected broken nose. It was enough for her to withdraw from the fight and fuelled debate on social media about the fairness of the contest as many started to label Imane Khelif as "biologically male" and a "transgender".

It did not help that Khelif was disqualified from the 2023 World Championships in New Delhi due to "elevated levels of testosterone". Lin Yu-Ting of Taiwan, who is also participating in the Paris Olympics, was also disqualified last year. A gender eligibility test reportedly found that she had XY chromosomes, which are typically found in males. Most women have XX-sex chromosomes



Khelif tried to "deceive" her colleagues and "pretend to be women" DIFFERENT BODIES, **DIFFERENT ELIGIBIL-ITY RULES**

Why was Imane Khelif allowed to participate in the Olympics in that case? It is due to two different bodies being in charge of the boxing events.

The World Championships was run by the International Boxing Association (IBA), which has since been banned

are women who have competed in the Tokyo Olympics and have been competing for many years," IOC spokesper-

son Mark Adams said at a press conference. At the heart of the controversy is the IOC's recent change in guidelines on testosterone levels. Athletes are no longer required to undergo hormone-level modifications to compete. Moreover, the IOC has held that testosterone was not always a at birth. Thus, in combat sports like boxing, this can be a serious safety issue

However, IOC rules say the inclusion of athletes with DSDs should be the default, and they should only be excluded from women's competition if there are "clear fairness or safety issues"

However, the controversy surrounding it is not new and the issue of testosterone limits previously grabbed attention in the case of Caster Semenya. Semenya, a South African runner, won gold medals in the 2012 and 2016 Olympics.

She was barred from competing in the 2020 Olympics after it was found that her body naturally produces higher levels of testosterone than normal for women.

Alcaraz beat USA's Tommy Paul in straight sets to qualify for the semi-final round. However, Alcaraz had to dig deep to register a win against the 13th seeded Paul. The Spaniard was on course of heading for a decider until a brilliant comeback in the second set saw Alcaraz win 6-3, 7-6 (9-7) on the Court Phillippe Chartier for two hours and one minute.

"Thank you, Carlos

closer after today's victory. You can get it. We are all with you!," Nadal wrote on 'X'. Alcaraz reaches semi-

final

"I had a really great two weeks in Roland Alcaraz looked to Garros - playing great quickly put his disaptennis here, feeling great moving, feeling pointing doubles exit great hitting the ball. So with Rafael Nadal behind him and suc-(I came) here having the cessfully defended two same feeling," Alcaraz break points in the opensaid. "But I can lose ing game. While Paul against everybody. I matched him stride for have to respect every stride during the openplayer."

Then, the International Boxing Association president Umar Kremlev said due to alleged corruption and governance issues. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) is in charge of boxing in Paris.

The controversy seemed to have arisen as both bodies have different medical standards for competitors. The IOC has stated that Khelif and Lin were eligible competitors. "They are women on

their passports, they

determinant of physical advantage.

However, Imane Khelif. who has faced significant criticism on social media, including from the likes of author JK Rowling and tech billionaire Elon Musk, does not identify herself as transgender or intersex.

"When will this madness stop? Men cannot become women," former UK Prime Minister Liz Truss tweeted.

ences of Sexual Development is a rare condition where people raised as females have XY sex chromosomes and testosterone levels in the male range, as per the official Olympics site. These women also have higher muscle mass. skeletal advantage and faster twitch muscle. It may also include differences in genitalia from those typically

associated with gender

picked Jasprit Bumrah

as his favourite bowler

from the Indian team.

Bumrah was the Player

Rowling commented,

"This isn't sport. From

the bullying cheat in

red all the way up to the

organisers who allowed

this to happen, this is

men revelling in their

However, Khelif, who

had humble begin-

nings and used to sell

bread on the streets

of her Algerian village,

has been competing in

global boxing events for

many years, including

the 2020 Tokyo Olym-

She has passed the

IOC's standards and

received a clearance

certificate to participate.

The development has

kicked off a debate about

athletes with Differences

of Sexual Development

(DSD) participating in

WHAT IS DSD? WHY

In simple terms, Differ-

women's events.

IS IT AN ISSUE?

pics.

power over women."

On Saturday, Khelif will return to the boxing ring in the guarter-finals of the light welterweight division. This time, her opponent will be Hungary's Anna Luca Hamori. Nevertheless, the image of an inconsolable Carini falling to the floor in tears after withdrawing from the bout will no doubt go down as one of the most controversial moments in Olympic history.

After Olympics medal, shooter Swapnil Kusale gets double promotion in railways

NEW DELHI, Aug 2 (Agencies): Following his historic bronze medal win, India's Swapnil Kusale received a double promotion from being a travelling ticket examiner (TTE) for the Indian Railways to Officer on Special Duty (OSD), Sports Cell in Mumbai on August 2, Friday. Kusale won a historic medal in the 50m rifle 3 positions event to bag India's 3rd one at the Paris Olympics 2024. This was also the third medal for India in shooting.

Kusale has been working for Central Railways since 2015. The 28-year-old from Kambalwadi village near Kolhapur in Maharashtra has been competing in international events since 2012, but he had to wait another 12 years to make his Olympics debut at the Paris Games.

It has now been cofirmed that the Indian shooter has got a double promotion, after the statement was issued on Thursday.

"The vacant Jr.Scale/Gr.B post

of Mechanical Deptt. is transferred for operation as OSD(Sports)/ Sports Cell, HQ."

"In compliance to instructions contained in Railway Board's RBE No.39/2017 dated 25.04.201" and 2018/E(Sports)/4(3)/4/Policy dated 27.09.2019, approval has been accordea by the General Manager for grant of 1" Out of Turn promotion to Shri Swapnil Suresh Kusale, Jr.TE/PA Division (Group "C") (Sportsperson Shooting) in Group "B" Gazetted cadre on account of his outstanding achievement in the field of Sports (Shooting) in Paris Olympic, 2024 and posted as OSD(Sports) in Level-08 in Sports Cell, HQ office, CSMT against the vacant Scale / Group "B" post of Mechanical Deptt. transferred for operation as OSD(Sports)/CSMT, subject to passing the prescribed Medical Examination under Para 530(a) of IRMM-2000 and subject to Vigilance clearance," read the statement.





Speaking after his medal win, Kusale said that he admires Dhoni and does relate to his story as he is also a ticket collector like him. "I don't follow anyone specific in the shooting world. Outside of that, I admire Dhoni for the person that he is. My sport requires me to be as calm and patient as he is on the field. I also relate to his story as I am a ticket collector like he was," said Kusale.

The assistant sports officer at Central Railway had said after Kusale's win that he would be getting a double promotion.

'Will take a call once...": MS Dhoni's big 'best interest' take on IPL future

NEW DELHI, Aug 2 (Agencies): With rules around IPL 2025 player regulations and retention scheme in the process of being firmed up, MS Dhoni has said he would wait and see how the rules are before deciding on his IPL future with Chennai Super Kings (CSK). "There is a lot of time for it. We have to see what decision they take on player retention etc. Right now, the ball is not in our court. So, once the rules and regulations get formalised, I will take a call, but needs to be in the best interest of the team," said Dhoni at a promotional event in Hyderabad. Questions on Dhoni's future at the IPL have been a huge source of discussion, especially after CSK made Ruturaj Gaikwad captain for IPL 2024,

logue with the IPL team

where they finished at fifth place in the tournaowners on a variety of ment and failed to qualsubjects, and the recomify for the playoffs. As of mendations will be taken now, all ten IPL teams to the IPL Governing Council further deliberaare not on the same page for the mega auction and evaluation. Dhoni, who captained tion rules, ranging from player retention to the India to 2007 T20 World Impact Player rule. Cup and 2011 ODI After a meeting with World Cup triumphs,

all franchise owners' in Mumbai, BCCI secretary Jay Shah said there was constructive diaof the Tournament in India's T20 World Cup triumph in June, picking 15 wickets from eight matches at an economy rate of 4.17.

"It's easy to pick my favourite bowler because Bumrah is there. It's difficult to pick a batsman because we have many good batsmen. But that doesn't mean bowlers aren't good," he said.

In terms of batters, Dhoni didn't pick a favourite. "It's difficult to pick one among batters as whomever I see batting, he looks the best. But when I see someone else he also looks great. But as long as Team India is winning, I don't want to pick a batter (as my favourite). I hope they will keep scoring runs for the team," he concluded.

LOCAL/ADVT

UK Experts from Imperial College of London visit AIIMS Jammu for Lecture on Medical Ethics and Law



Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: AIIMS Jammu is dedicated to excellence in Medical Education, Training, Healthcare Research, and Patient Care. Through innovative programs and international partnerships, AIIMS Jammu strive to improve healthcare outcomes and contribute to the wellbeing of our community. AIIMS Jammu recently hosted a distinguished delegation from the United Kingdom for an enlightening lecture on medical ethics and Law and discussions on future collaboration. The visiting experts included Dr. Daniel Sokol, a barrister in London and visiting lec-

turer in medical ethics at Imperial College London; Harjeet Singh, a trustee for an educational charity; and Abhineet Kour, an NHS nurse and dedicated charity volunteer. Dr. Daniel Sokol, renowned for his expertise of 20 years in medical ethics, delivered a compelling keynote lecture that addressed critical ethical challenges in contemporary healthcare. Dr. Sokol's insights, drawn from his extensive legal and ethical background, provided valuable perspectives to the healthcare professionals and students at AIIMS

Harjeet Singh, a passionate advocate for educational equity, engaged

Jammu.

in discussions on potential educational collaborations. As a trustee for an educational charity, Mr. Singh shared best practices and explored initiatives aimed at enhancing educational opportunities for underserved communities, fostering a global exchange of ideas and strategies.Mrs. Abhineet Kour, an experienced NHS nurse and committed charity volunteer, conducted an impactful workshop on community health initiatives.

"Prof (Dr) Shakti Kumar Gupta, ED and CEO, AIIMS Jammu, informed us that their visit was a significant opportunity for our Institution to gain international perspectives on

medical ethics, education, and healthcare. The discussions and insights shared during their visit have laid the groundwork for future collaborations that will benefit both our communities."

The visit featured a series of events expanded over two days, which included the keynote lecture by Dr. Sokol for the Faculty, senior residents, Nursing faculty, Nursing Officers, MBBS students, and B.Sc. Nursing students, a discussion on global education strategies led by Mr. Singh, and a workshop on community health initiatives, Lt Gen Sunil Kant, Dean Research, HoD Hospital MS. Administration, AIIMS

Jammu.whowas present on the occasion and enlightened the audience about the research activities being done at AIIMS Jammu, mentioning that currently, AIIMS Jammu is working on 41 Extramurally Funded Projects and 29 Intramurally Funded Projects from the Faculty, but the students have also contributed 11 Research projects.

Dr Sokol also presented his book "Tough Choices - Stories from the Front Line of Medical Ethics" to Prof (Dr) Shakti Kumar Gupta, ED and CEO, AIIMS Jammu, along with MS and the Deans and Associate Deans AIIMS Jammu. He also mentioned that after visiting AIIMS Jammu, he was impressed with the facilities and found them at the level of the Global standards.

meaningful dialogue and strengthened the ties between AIIMS Jammu exchange.

BJP uses people of Jammu for vote bank politics: Rajesh Gupta

Top News Report

JAMMU, Aug 2: The Jammu and Kashmir Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) general secretary and media head Rajesh Gupta on Friday while interacting with the media here said, the BJP in Jammu has lost its faith towards their voters.

BJP leaders are so shameless that they have no concern about Jammu's genuine issues and problems. Gupta said after facing betrayal so many times from BJP leaders people are still becoming fools deliberately

While Jammu has all along been supporting all moves of the Centre even at the cost of its



tics with hardly any regard for their sentiments. The Centre has all along been focused on Kashmir with Jammu made to play a second fiddle. And the tradition continues even after Article 370 abrogation. The last five years have not seen any change in the centre's policy towards J&K except that it has been converted into a Union made before coming to power at the Centre and in J&K.

He said that people should elect those who will ensure that their voice is heard. "People of J&K want a credible voice to represent their aspirations and BSP is the only credible voice of all the regions of J&K," he added.

"The people of J&K remember the BJP for unleashing countless miseries on the UT and its people. People still recount the numerous instances of BJP and its leaders committed from time to time. The treacherous role played by the BJP and its leadership is an open secret," he said, adding, now the responsibility rests on people to choose between forces inimical to UT's integrity. "In the end, it is the people whose resolve will prevail," he said.

Vivek Bali applauds New **Gair Mumkin Khads Policy** Khads, thus unlocking

Top News Report

SRINAGAR, Aug 2: JD(U) State General Secretary Vivek Bali, has commended the Administrative Council of Jammu and Kashmir for its progressive decision to revise the policy for delineating lands recorded as Gair Mumkin Khads in revenue records.

Manoj Sinha.

Vivek Bali emphasized the significance of this policy revision, highlighting its potential to enhance land utilization and stimulate economic growth in the region.

The revised policy will bring clarity and faciliate the productive use

Kashmiris Pandits pay tributes to Major Sushil Aima

Top News Report

JAMMU Aug 2: Scores of Kashmiris and exiled Pandits paid rich tributes to Major Sushil Aima, an illustrious son of Kashmir and a martyr, at his memorial on Major Sushil Aima Road in Gurugram, Harvana.

Major Aima is remembered for his supreme sacrifice in the defense of the motherland and the dharma of Bharat Mata. Among the attendees were Ashok Bhan, noted Supreme Court Senior Lawyer and prominent Kashmiri leader; Ajay Pandita, Kashmir Peace Lovers (KPL) coordinator; Dr. Anil Vaisnavi, President of the Gurgaon Kashmiri Association; Rohit Dhar, Vice President of All India Kashmiri Samaj; as well as academicians, civil society activists, artists, and veterans.

On the night of August 1, 1999, Major Aima, while preparing for his departure to Delhi, was tasked with thwarting an imminent attack by a large group of Pakistani terrorists and foreign mercenaries near a village in Poonch district. Under his leadership, the army unit 17 Rashtriva Rifles cordoned off the area and launched an all-out attack. The fierce encounter lasted over seven hours, during which Major Aima personally killed three terrorists before being fatally

wounded. Despite being injured, he continued to fight and provided cover for a wounded colleague. The operation resulted

in the elimination of five hardcore militants and the recovery of significant arms and explosives. Major Aima was martyred at the age of 32, defending his country and its constitutional values. His sacrifice earned him the nation's second-highest peacetime gallantry award, the Kirti Chakra. Born on July 15, 1966, in an illustrious family in Srinagar, Major Sushil Aima had a passion for computers and military service. He joined the National Defence Academissioned into the Corps of Air Defence Artillery in 1988. His career was marked by bravery and leadership, particularly during his service in the militancy-affected Doda district in Jammu and Kashmir. He is survived by his wife. Archana Aima, and their children, Ridhi and Siddharth.

my in 1985 and was com-

12

The tribute event echoed a unified sentiment: "Salute to the martyrdom of all those who made the supreme sacrifices of their lives in protecting the innocent citizens and in blunting the nefarious designs of enemies to harm and bleed our motherland."

GODOWN FOR RENT Corner Plot Size 100 ft x150 ft (3 Kanals) at Kirthali, Bari Brahamana Private **Commercial Registered Land** with 40 ft both side lane having 6000 Sq. ft Covered Shed



Territory," he added.

their potential for development. "The decision by the

Administrative Council, under the leadership of Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha, marks a significant step forward for Jammu and Kashmir. This policy change will not only optimize land resources but also contribute to the overall eco-

This landmark decision has been approved by Lieutenant Governor

and the visiting experts from the Imperial College London UK, paving the way for ongoing cooperation and knowledge

These events fostered

own interests, the latter has always failed to reciprocate appropriately, said BSP leader.

"People of Jammu are used for vote bank poli-

Rajesh Gupta said that the people are waiting eagerly for assembly elections to teach a lesson to the BJP for failing to fulfil the promises

GLDM Degree College organises orientation programme on "Cultural Resource Mapping" of Hiranagar block INTACH (Jammu Chap-

Top News Report

HIRANAGAR, Aug 2: GLDM Degree College Hiranagar in collaboration with INTACH Jammu Chapter organises orientation programme on "Cultural Resource Mapping" of Hiranagar block, on Friday under the ongoing Summer Internship rogramme for semester 5th students of Department of English and Department of Hindi.

The programme started with lighting of the traditional lamp by the Principal, Dr.Pragya Khanna, C M Seth (IFS retd.), chief guest and other guests of honour. The guests were also given tokens of appreciation in the form of saplings.

Dr.Pragya Khanna, principal of the college in her address lauded the efforts and contribution of INTACH Jammu chapter in the preservation and conservation of tangible and intangible heritage of Jammu province. S M Sahani, Convenor

ter) while sharing his passion for conserving the local heritage apprised the students about the origin and establishment of INTACH. He further acquainted them with various initiatives organised the cultural heritage of Jammu. Dr. CM Seth spoke about

the importance of Internship programme launched under NEP 2020 for the students as this enhances the practical knowledge of learners while facilitating and complementing their theoretical knowledge. He apprised the students about cultural resource mapping and directed them to prepare comprehensive reports and submit them to their mentors at the end of the course for grading. Kirpal Singh, made a presentation on Folk Art and Crafts of Jammu. Darshan Pal, from the Department of Handicrafts and Handlooms, highlighted the various training programmes and projects

offered by the department. Dr. Sonia Jasrotia shared some insights about the Food Crafts and cuisines of Jammu. Among other prominent guests were AK Kapoor, Sh. Arvind Kotwal and Dr. Rohini, Assistant Director. Department of Handicrafts and Handlooms,

Hiranagar. Prof. Rakesh Sharma, HoD Hindi welcomed all the speakers and participants on behalf of GLDM Degree College Hiranagar. Dr. Vijay Chauhan, Assistant Professor in Hindi presented the formal vote of thanks. Isha (volunteer INTACH) conducted the proceedings of the event. Among others present on the occasion were Prof.Bindu Sharma, HoD English, Prof. Punam Kamotra, HoD Chemistry,

Prof. Ganga Sharma, HoD Dogri, Prof. Amit Sharma, HoD Political Science, Prof.Raiesh Sharma, HoD Mathematics, Prof.Balbir Singh, HodPhysical Education and others.

of lands previously categorized as Gair Mumkin

ties, benefiting both the local population and the broader economy.

nomic prosperity of the

The JDU expresses its

gratitude to the Lieuten-

ant Governor and the

Administrative Coun-

cil for their visionary

approach and commit-

ment to the development

of Jammu and Kashmir.

This policy revision is

expected to pave the

way for new opportuni-

region," said Vivek Bali.

Prabas meeting held at BVP **Vivekanand Branch**



Top News Report

JAMMU Aug 2: Vijay Sharma, the State Vice President and Samparak Parmukh of Bharatiya Vidya Parishad (BVP) J&K Prant, held a Prabas meeting of the BVP Vivekananda Branch at Luthra Academy in Last Morh, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.

The meeting was presided over by Branch President Vijay Phoaj, with Arun Sharma, National Member of the NGSC team, as a special guest.

In the meeting, Vijay Phoaj welcomed the special guests, Arun Sharma and Vijay Sharma.

He elaborated on the various activities carried out by the branch and highlighted the promotional efforts that have led to the branch having

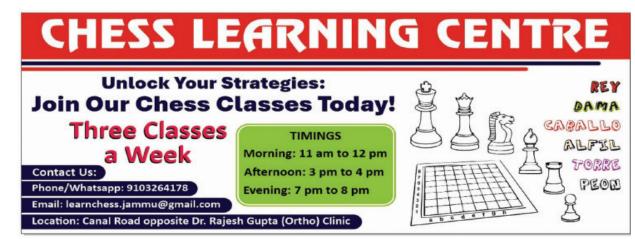
104 members. Vijay Sharma inquired about various working aspects of the branch and expressed his appreciation

Kapai

Others who participated in the meeting included Vaid, Goswami, Kapoor Secretary, Kohli Finance Secretary, Pawan and



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